

the chronicle

Classic favourite back on road with new partnership

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All shipshape as narrowboat fans prepare for event

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This will update every Saturday

Retirement beckons for education visionary

THE principal of award-winning Leasowes Community College retires this Easter after 25 years at the helm.

John Howells took the headship at Leasowes in 1986 after moving from Wales and spending time as a maths teacher at Halesowen Grammar School, head of maths at Codsall High and deputy head at Holly Hall School in Dudley.

The college in Kent Road, Halesowen, was recognised by the 21st Century Learning Alliance, a group which champions excellence and was national winner in the Outstanding 21st Century School contest in 2008.

Mr Howells' approaches to learning have won him national recognition.

Neil Shaw, vice principal of Leasowes said: "Thousands of students past and present have benefited from his vision of how learning should take place."

Mr Howells created the college's much-admired curriculum model and became a key player in the £10 million Dudley Grid for Learning, linking every school in Dudley and transforming the work of every student and teacher in the borough.

His work with the Halesowen Educational Trust has seen him collaborate on issues affecting the life chances of the local young people and has worked in an advisory role with the Qualification and Curriculum authority, the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust and the National College for School Leadership.

New kennels for stray dogs

A CONTRACT to care for stray dogs found in Dudley has gone to kennels in Stoke-on-Trent, it has been announced. Dogs found roaming in the borough used to go to Rose Dene Animal Rescue Service, Walsall.

However, after an illness broke out in December the council had to make a temporary switch to Stoke.

A two year contract for the service has now been won by Stoke's City Dogs home but council bosses will not say how much it is worth as details are deemed "commercially sensitive".

Talking books now on council website

A NEW service allowing people to download talking books for free has been launched in Dudley. The scheme means people can download up to 10 of the talking books via the council website.

The books stay on the user's computer – and any device it is transferred to, such as smart phones or MP3 players – for three weeks before being deleted. More than 600 talking books are available.



DC Steve Goddard with some of the guns and weapons that were recovered

Fanatic jailed 16 years for weapons cache in house

A GUN fanatic who hoarded some of the deadliest weapons ever encountered by police in the West Midlands has begun a 16-year prison sentence.

Fruit and veg trader David Evans had Uzis, shotguns and a hitman-style pistol with a silencer, some of which were issued only to foreign armies.

Police who seized the cache of 10 deadly guns, one of the biggest of its kind in the West Midlands, initially feared they could have been used by far-right extremists.

They say the guns could have caused mayhem had they fallen into the hands of terrorists or the region's drugs gangs.

But detectives say 42-year-old Evans, of Lawnswood Road, Wordsley, was simply a collector who never had any plans to sell them or use them in crime. Judge

Michael Challinor said the machine guns were known as "room sprayers, designed for one purpose – killing people".

He told Evans, who was convicted of 29 firearms charges: "You cynically and deliberately collected this cache of weapons, some of which were described as dangerous a weapon as one firearms expert had seen in his 37-year career."

He said the guns were kept with "little or no security" when Evans had passed the weapons to a "naïve" associate, 25-year-old Daniel Thatcher, of Summerfield Avenue, Wall Heath. Police searched Thatcher's house when he was arrested on an unrelated matter and found a 9mm Uzi and a 9mm pistol and cartridges under his bed.

Police found a bullet at a barn Evans ran his business from at Hinksford Farm, Swindon, South Staffordshire.

Evans, who was arrested on June 17 last year, was convicted by majority verdicts of 10-2 by jurors at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week. He was jailed for three years in 2005 for posting an illegal firearm to a legitimate dealer in Scotland.

How police seized deadly stash
- page 3

David Evans

Thorntons closing its town shop

CHOCOLATE giant Thorntons is closing its store in Dudley town centre after nearly 20 years of trading, it has been announced.

The shop, in Churchill Precinct, has been a fixture in the town since 1994. But the firm said it now also had a shop in the Merry Hill Shopping Centre, in Brierley Hill, and did not need two stores so close together.

The Dudley store will cease trading on May 29 after studies revealed it attracted fewer customers than the Merry Hill branch.

A sign has already been put up in the window announcing the closure. The firm is hoping to move the six staff at Dudley to other branches in the region.

Bosses say they may consider opening a smaller, franchise outlet in the town centre in the future.

SHOW CHAOS AS PEPPA PIG IN FIX

HUNDREDS of children were left disappointed this week when TV character Peppa Pig was forced to pull out of shows at Dudley's Merry Hill Centre – after getting stuck on the motorway with a flat tyre.

It followed a scramble for tickets which left many upset to find that all 500 tickets had already been handed out.

The fiasco got worse when shopping centre staff announced Tuesday's shows had been postponed until the following day.

Families with children, many dressed as Peppa or her brother George, were disappointed after turning up to snap up tickets – only to be told they had all gone.

The shopping centre staff announced over the public address system that the 11am show had been delayed.

But the bubble was totally burst for the crowds of youngsters and their families who had gathered in the centre hoping to catch a glimpse

of their favourite TV characters when they were told they would no longer be turning up and the scheduled shows would, instead, be performing a day late.

Merry Hill had been advertising that the free tickets for five Peppa Pig shows to run during the day would be available from 9am.

A spokeswoman claimed at least 50 children had been turned away.

Hundreds

But mother Louisa Fretwell, aged 32, of Staite Drive, Cookley, near Kidderminster, who was with her 11-month-old son, Zach, and her nephew Charlie Foale, aged 17 months, of Brooklands Drive, Kidderminster, said: "The centre have made a right pig's ear of it."

"There are hundreds of people here, including children who had come in all their Peppa Pig gear."

Merry Hill said tickets for the Tuesday shows would be honoured on the following day. Ticket-holders who were unable to make it for the new time would be given tickets for a "character" event later in the year.



Artist Luke Perry from Cradley Heath works on his latest piece of art

Canalside art is on schedule

THIS image of a miner is set to feature in a new £40,000 trail connecting Sandwell and Dudley along a five mile stretch of the Dudley Canal.

Cradley Heath artist Luke Perry created the "test" sculpture to feature among 35 two dimensional sculptures. It is hoped the trail will be installed this summer, and formally opened to the public on July 31.

It will stretch from Blowers Green Bridge, Pear Tree Lane, Dudley, through Bumble Hole Nature Reserve on the Sandwell border to the Gorstby Hill Tunnel, Old Hill.

Luke, aged 27, set up his firm, Industrial Heritage Stronghold, three years ago creating artwork championing the Black Country.

He said: "Everything is on schedule, with 80 per cent of the designs now completed."

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'Unique' canal tunnels get top national award



From left, Peter Stone of The Transport Trust, Stuart Wilkinson, trust chairman, Vic Smallshire chairman of Dudley Canal Trust, the Mayor and Mayoress of Dudley Councillor Peter and Mrs Hilary Miller and British Waterways' Tony Hales

ONE of the Black Country's top tourist attractions has won official recognition for its importance in Britain's transport heritage.

Dudley Canal Tunnel has been awarded a Red Wheel plaque by the Transport Trust in recognition of its status as a "unique complex of tunnels developed since 1778 for limestone and coal mining, for through navigation and increasingly for tourism".

The Transport Trust aims to raise awareness and appreciation of Britain's transport heritage. Its website carries full details of more than 800 important locations throughout the country and across all modes of transport – from Roman roads to seaplane bases.

The most important of these are also being marked on site by the award of commemorative plaques, known as Red Wheels – with Dudley Canal Tunnel being the first in the West Midlands. The plaque at Dudley was unveiled by British Waterways chairman

Tony Hales, supported by Transport Trust president Sir William McAlpine, the Mayor of Dudley Councillor Peter Miller and Dudley Canals Trust chairman Vic Smallshire. During the ceremony the Trust also took the opportunity to bring together two artifacts for the first time.

These were the notice of closure put up at the Tipton portal in 1962 by the British Waterways Board and a new commemorative plaque saying "Dudley Canal Tunnel. Closed by the Government on behalf of the People. Re-opened by the People on behalf of themselves".

Ceremony

The ceremony was also attended by members of Dudley Canals Trust and representatives of local tourism bodies and canal societies. The tunnel system under Castle Hill was originally constructed to help transport limestone from the mines.

Tony Hales, British Waterways chairman said: "Thanks to the wonders of 18th century engineering and the perseverance and foresight of 20th Century volunteers, Dudley Tunnel remains as one of the most enduring landmarks on the Midlands canal network.

"The Red Wheel plaque recognises the efforts of those that built and restored the tunnel system as well as those who continue to promote and interpret it."

Hospital trust's pledge on skin

DIRECTORS from Dudley's hospital trust have helped launch a campaign to raise awareness among patients and staff of pressure ulcers. The six directors of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust have given their backing to the We Love Your Skin drive, urging clinical teams to pledge to protect patients from developing pressure ulcers while they are in hospital. The condition, also known as bedsores, can be caused by unrelieved pressure, friction or medication among others.

Worker's dismissal was fair - tribunal

A DUDLEY assembler who had not worked for seven months because of arthritic hands has lost compensation claims for unfair dismissal and disability discrimination.

She worked at Whittam Industrial Ltd of Telford.

Mrs Valda Williams, aged 52, of Bunn's Lane, was at Birmingham Employment Tribunal.

She said her GP signed her off work because of arthritis but she herself believed she was capable of another role at the firm. "I was told I could not come back to work because I would be a health of safety risk in view of my hands," she said.

Mr Jonathan Melia, for the firm, said the management had been told in the GP's report that Mrs Williams was unfit for work.

"A retirement scheme was proposed," said Mr Melia.

Mrs Williams was eventually dismissed on the grounds of incapability because of ill-health.

Mrs Williams admitted she never challenged her GP about his assessment.

She accused the firm of failing to make adjustments to find her a different job.

Tribunal judge Miss Mary Cocks said Mrs Williams failed to challenge her GP about his assessment while the firm believed she was not fit to return to work.

"Mrs Williams wanted another role but the firm said nothing was available. As a result, the claims for unfair dismissal and disability discrimination are rejected."

Art is a window on saint's story



Artistic pupils, front, Ciaran Haverty, aged 11, Jordan Ryder 11, Ross Cash 10, with, back left to right, Matthew Parkes 10, Jade Gibbs 11, Tegan Glover 11, Megan Burbridge 10, Balraj Purewal 10, Tyler Sheil 10 and Simran Bains 11

AN artist has been working with pupils to create three pieces of art to kick-start celebrations to mark a Sandwell primary school's 150th anniversary.

Darrell Wakelam, from Devon, has been working with different classes at St Martin's Primary School in Tipton in the run up to Easter.

The result is three stained-glass window-style pictures depicting the story of St Martin.

"It looks fantastic," said headteacher Sarah Bott.

Victorian

"He has built up a frame with 3-D edges to make it look as if you're peering through a stained-glass window."

"It's a great way to start our celebrations.

"It will go in a prominent position in the school reception."

Future events to mark the anniversary will include a mural made up of pupils drawings, which will be put up outside the school, and a Victorian week.

This is due to start on May 16 and will include fancy dress plus Victorian-themed games and activities.

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A chance encounter with two suspected burglars led police to a huge weapons cache in the Black Country.

THIS is the haul of deadly guns hoarded by a Midland weapons fanatic and uncovered by police in one of the biggest single seizures of firearms the region has seen.

American and Israeli military issue machine guns were found alongside a pistol with a "hitman-style" silencer attached.

Police feared the stash may have fallen into the hands of terrorists plotting a Mumbai-style massacre, or violent drugs gangs.

Ammunition included bullets designed to explode on impact for maximum damage.

The arsenal's owner, gun enthusiast David Evans, is beginning a 16-year prison sentence after being found guilty of possession of the 10 weapons and more than 500 bullets.

Business

A major investigation is still trying to determine how fruit and veg seller Evans got hold of the collection, although some of the components were bought on ebay. The haul was found after a chance arrest of brothers Daniel and Lee Thatcher - held at Cavendish House, a derelict council building in Dudley town centre, for burglary in May. Police then searched their homes.

In a hold-all at the garage of Lee's home, officers found a "military-calibre" Kalashnikov, also known as an AK74. A firearms expert described it as "dangerous a weapon as I have seen to date". Under gun enthusiast Daniel's bed, officers found a 9mm Uzi, a 9mm pistol and cartridges.

In interview the 25-year-old mobile mechanic, who had a firearms licence for three legally held guns, refused to say if he fired most of the illegal weapons.

Shotguns, pistols and hundreds of live rounds were also found at the home.

Lee, aged 28, said his brother asked to store the hold-all at his garage, but thought it contained tools.

He was sentenced to 450 days, the equivalent of just less than 15 months, at Wolverhampton Crown Court in December but was expected to be released immediately due to time spent in custody.

Lee, whose address cannot be published for legal reasons,

admitted six charges relating to possession of guns and four relating to ammunition.

Daniel, of Summerfield Avenue, Wall Heath, admitted 10 charges related to firearms and seven relating to ammunition and was jailed at the same time for three years and eight months.

The brothers said they found the guns in a disused mine but Det Insp Dring, who led the investigation, said:

"Because of the nature of the weapons that we recovered, we had to then look at where they got them from.

"Those types of weapons are not seen in this country, they are not seen on the streets and you don't see gangs using them.

You do see armed forces using some of those guns."

Attention turned to Evans, an associate of Daniel and a man police say had a "lifelong fascination with firearms".

In June officers searched Hinksford Farm, Swindon, near Wombridge, where Evans had a unit he ran a fruit and veg business from.

Stash

In his late teens Evans was one of the youngest people in the West Midlands to get a firearms licence. Deactivated weapons, prop guns and a round of live ammunition were found but it became clear the stash at the Thatchers' homes belonged to Evans.

Police initially feared a connection to the far right English Defence League, protesting in Dudley near where the brothers were arrested.

Det Insp Dring said: "But in reality they weren't."

"All the inquiries we've made to date show quite categorically that they weren't part of any organisation but a burglar could have gone to those houses and then we'd have an unknown burglar walking around our streets with these sorts of weapons."

"It doesn't matter that David Evans didn't want them for a criminal purpose, it's the fact that somebody else could have got hold of them and then where would we be?" Police believe

Daniel took the guns from Evans at a time when Evans was depressed and could have posed a risk to himself.

Det Insp Dring said of Evans: "How he acquired them is still subject to an ongoing investigation and we have got inquiries in America, Israel and Europe."

"We believe some of the guns were put together from bits of other guns that may have been imported via the internet."

He said officers were "very fortunate" to recover the guns.

"This is the sort of stuff that makes national news - none of the people involved in incidents such as Dunblane were the normal criminals, but one day they flipped."



This M4 Carbine was among the firearms found



Dangerous weapon - the AK74 which was recovered



Seized - the Israeli army issue Uzi weapon

How burglary put police on trail of deadly weapons haul



Role play of fanatic

DAVID Evans told police how he liked to re-enact scenes from war films in his attic with prop guns - and admitted he was "a bit sad".

He said he bought only replica weapons to help recreate scenes from We Were Soldiers and Saving Private Ryan in his loft.

He told officers: "It might sound a bit sad, but in my loft I had some mannequins which I dressed as German soldiers, American soldiers, this soldier, that soldier. But obviously I had no guns. That's when I started buying the guns to put on the uniforms."

Stored guns

Evans told police the government had "screwed it all up" by changing gun laws, which meant firearms he had previously held legally were now illegal.

"I just love guns," Evans told officers. "A lot of people might not like it but I'm a bloody fanatic with them."

Daniel Thatcher, who stored the guns for Evans, eventually gave evidence against him. In return he was given a three-year, eight month prison sentence instead of an 11 year sentence.



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New partnership lifeline for show

Robot gives surgeon a guiding hand

A CANCER patient from Halesowen has become the first in the Midlands to have an operation carried out by surgeons assisted by a robot.

Philip Hansford, aged 66, is recovering after surgery at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital to have his prostate gland removed.

Prostate cancer specialist Peter Cooke led the team during last Thursday's surgery, using the Da Vinci Robot – a step up from keyhole surgery which minimises blood loss, and means a quicker recovery time. The new technique features a robotic cart with arms, with instruments mounted on to them, which are moved by the surgeons.

The device senses the surgeon's hand movements and translates them electronically into scaled-down micro-movements to manipulate the tiny instruments.

Accuracy

It also detects and filters out any tremors in the surgeon's hands, so that they are not duplicated robotically. Mr Hansford, a retired building surveyor, was diagnosed with prostate cancer last Christmas. Recovering at home he said: "I wanted to thank Peter Cooke and his team for all the work they did – I was nervous to begin with when they said what the operation would involve, but everyone at New Cross made it so easy," he said.

Mr Cooke said: "Using the Da Vinci Robot opens up a whole new world of technical innovation and accuracy that is unheard of using the more traditional methods of surgery. "The operation went without a hitch and took around four hours, so I am absolutely over the moon."



A Sprite leads an earlier parade

A BUSINESSMAN has stepped in to run the Sandwell Historic Vehicle and Transport Show next month.

More than 10,000 car enthusiasts are expected in the borough for the annual event in May which will be run between Northamptonshire businessman David Alderson and Sandwell Council.

The show, which will be the 33rd staged, will again be held at Sandwell Valley in West Bromwich, on May 8.

More than 500 vehicles will be on show, some dating back to the 1920s and including a 1924 Rolls Royce Cabriolet and a 1920 Triumph Motorcycle.

American cars, commercial vehicles, buses and motorcycles will compete for the 48 awards on offer. Other attractions include an arena with the Piston

Ring Youth Motorcycle Display Team, craft fair, market, trade stands and a fun fair.

There were doubts about the future of the Sandwell Show and the Historic Vehicle Show earlier this year when it was feared the council planned to charge admission.

It had emerged chiefs had drawn up plans to charge admission for the show in May so it could pay for itself.

Aborted

The authority sent out tenders for caterers and entertainers and spent £150 advertising the new charges in magazines before it aborted plans.

Former organiser Geoff Price, of Transtar Promotions, ruled himself out of the event when he believed a charge would be introduced.

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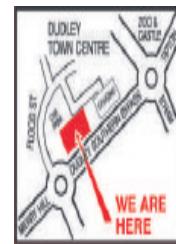
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Railway jobs and services are cut

JOBS have been axed and little-used train services scrapped from timetables as the historic Severn Valley Railway tries to get back on track following a fall in passenger numbers.

Bosses at the attraction said they had been forced to make "tough, unpalatable" decisions.

A total of 12 positions at the railway have been axed, including that of traffic manager Dewi Jones.

His responsibilities have now been distributed. The other 11 jobs, both part and full-time, have gone in departments such as accounts, shops and visitors' services.

Five workers, including the traffic manager, left due to redundancy. The rest had reached retirement age.

Bosses said the railway was facing up to the reality of last year's downturn when 20,000 fewer passengers used the line than expected. The

final figure stood at 225,000. The railway's target had been 245,000.

The shortfall meant a revenue loss of £240,000 based on an average income of £11 per passenger. But shareholders bought shares worth more than £250,000 during the year which cancelled out the deficit.

Positive

The least popular train services have also been axed to help costs.

Bosses said the job losses were necessary as they were expecting passenger numbers to drop further to 205,000 during the year.

But the fact that 6,600 passengers used the line during February and March – despite major engineering works which halted many services – was seen as a positive.

General manager Nick Ralls said: "We have had to make some tough, unpalatable decisions. However, it is the only responsible way to go."



Dedicated – Paul Brown, who has clocked up 25 years as a special constable

Hats off as Paul clocks up his special record

A SPECIAL constable from Dudley has clocked up a quarter of a century with West Midlands Police, totalling more than 10,000 hours of voluntary work.

By day 45-year-old Paul Brown, who lives in Halesowen, is a depot manager for BOC Gases in Brierley Hill.

But in his spare time he is out on the beat as a "special".

He joined up in 1986 on the police J Division, originally based at Dudley, moving to Sedgley and in 2002 taking up a post at his Lye base, now part of Dudley Local Policing Unit.

Paul said: "I joined the Special Constabulary to meet the public and help to deal with any issues in their hour of need. Over the

years, I have done just that and it has been a very rewarding thing to do."

"I have had an amazing journey with the specials and have seen more changes than most over the years, especially with how the Special Constabulary has developed and become an integral part of neighbourhood policing."

He added: "The role of a special constable has changed a lot since I first started."

Image

"When I joined, specials were mainly used for policing fetes, carnivals and other special events."

"The image and role of the special constable has totally transformed, from the old 'hobby hobby' image, to professional volunteer police officers, who wear and carry the same uniform and

equipment as regular police officers and have to go through an intensive training course."

District Officer James Horton, head of Dudley Special Constabulary, said: "Paul has dedicated a tremendous amount of unpaid hours to the policing of Dudley borough during his service, often after a hard day's work."

"His sense of humour, combined with his knowledge and policing skills, demonstrates how being a volunteer police officer has played a very rewarding and unforgettable part of Paul's life," added Mr Horton.

Dudley LPU has 75 members of the Special Constabulary, who commit to a minimum of 16 hours a month.

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Volunteers serving up hot meals for needy

A SOUP kitchen to help struggling families make ends meet during the economic downturn has been launched by volunteers from a Dudley church.

Champions Church, Netherton, organised it to help homeless and disadvantaged people.

The service is being run from the church's former 19th century Baptist Church base, in St Giles Street, yards from its new £3 million home in Cinder Bank. Forty people, including individuals and families, turned out last week after a previous successful trial run.

Marvellous

Worship Pastor Adam Nash helped organise the service with team leader Mark Goule and up to 40 volunteers sparing time to cook and serve meals.

They eventually hope to serve a hot two-course meal to everyone who turns up each week. It is aimed at people in need and volunteers say no one will be turned away.

The project is self-funded by cash and food donations.

Champions Church's community action group has a mobile food parcel service for other areas of Dudley including Wren's Nest and Pensnett but Mr Nash says it was felt right to expand the service to serve people living near the church.

He says they do not plan to turn away anyone in need and hope to accommodate as many people as possible.

Volunteers will also lay on a minibus to help collect people from outside Netherton to enable them to get a meal.

The kitchen will open



Soup kitchen co-ordinator Sarah Jay with John Fisher and Terry Lawley



Co-ordinator Mark Goule serves up a dish for April Dykes of Netherton

Soup kitchen just Champion



Hot and wholesome - volunteer cooks Pam Harris, from Dudley, and Pat Baynham, from Halesowen, prepare the meals for the Champions Church soup kitchen service in Netherton

each Tuesday at 6.30pm

John Fisher, aged 49, of Holly Hall, said: "I am a member of the church and when this event was announced thought I would try it out. I really enjoyed it which is why I

came again this week. It is a marvellous idea and it boosts the profile of the church."

Terry Lawley, aged 66, of Dudley, also attended last week's trial - and has now joined the

church regularly. "Everyone here is so friendly. They really go out of their way to help you and make you feel welcome," April Dykes, 24, of Netherton, said she urged friends and

neighbours to attend. "The meals are lovely and it brings the community together."

Lennie Loveridge and Shaun Scott, both 18, from Dudley, said it was "great".

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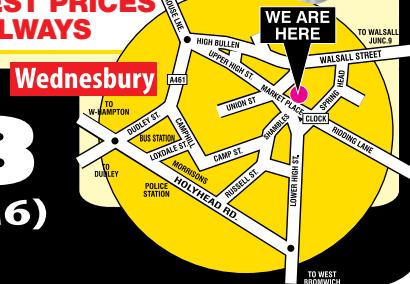
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Cool and hip happening at 60s' revival

THE swinging 60s have been celebrated at an event at a Black Country attraction.

Staff at Haden Hill House museum in Cradley Heath staged an evening of nostalgia last Thursday, with live music and retro fashion.

Development officer Alison Hyatt said it was an opportunity for people to relive their youth or get an insight of how their parents were as teenagers.

She added: "We are also interested in collecting people's memories of what they used to get up to in the local area during the '60s or any photographs they may have of Haden Hill House or the park."

Anyone who wants to contribute should call the museum at Haden Hill Park on 01384 569444.



Development officer Alison Hyatt, left, Robin Cooper and Anne Willets

Fire service hoax calls reach 3,500

HOAX calls to West Midlands Fire Service cost the taxpayer more than £430,000 in one year.

Emergency fire crews raced to the region on more than 1,400 occasions after 3,500 fake calls were made.

Eight hoaxers had their telephones permanently cut off for repeatedly making malicious calls throughout 2010. Fire service spokeswoman Lindsey Preece said the cost of false and malicious calls, which led to at least one emergency appliance being sent out, was £300 a time.

"Hoax calls are not just down to the younger generation but seasonal trends indicate an increase in the number of false and malicious calls during school holidays," she said.

The Fire Service works closely with telephone network providers and West Midlands Police to counteract false calls.

Warning on time-limit ticket spy at car park

All shipshape for big canal event



Canal trust members Jeni Hatton, front, Pat Walker and Graham Hatton get ready for the open weekend at the Hawne Basin in Halesowen

MORE than 3,000 canal enthusiasts will descend on a historic Black Country canal basin for an open weekend featuring more than 70 boats.

The free event, organised by Coombeswood Canal Trust, will be held at the Hawne Basin, in Halesowen, on April 30 and May 1.

Organisers are hoping for good weather after the last event two years ago was hit by heavy rain. Two marquees will be

packed with craft displays featuring jewellery, clothes and waterways collectables.

Visitors will also be able to tour the Dudley Number Two Canal up to the Gorsey Hill tunnel and get a closer look at the 70 boats permanently moored at the canal basin.

The trust will also tell visitors about its work to improve the basin and the canal and visitors will be able to see the historic working boats, Atlas and Malus.

A HIDDEN camera is ensuring drivers are fined if they take more than a few minutes to buy a parking ticket at a Brierley Hill shopping centre.

Drivers were this week warned that the clock starts ticking as soon as they drive into the car park.

Fines are automatically generated for anyone who does not purchase a ticket within a few minutes – regardless of how long it takes them to find a space.

A Dudley mother-of-three learned the hard way after being fined £60 for a 12-minute delay between entering and buying a ticket.

Jane Lennon, aged 36, said she had never suspected the short delay would end up being so costly. "I feel that anyone using the Moor Street Car Park needs to be made aware of the short amount of time given to acquire a ticket before they try to charge you," said Miss Lennon, of Lawn Avenue, Stourbridge.

Her fine notice came through in the post almost a month after she parked at the Moor Street Car Park in Brierley Hill, which is run by Excel Parking Services, while she went to Mecca Bingo nearby.

Appealed

The notice includes photographs of Miss Lennon's car entering the car park at 6.35pm and leaving at 9.04pm.

Miss Lennon still has the ticket she bought that evening, when she parked up for a night at the bingo.

The ticket was valid from 6.47pm to 9.47pm. She has now appealed the fine and is awaiting a response.

"It was a grand total of 12 minutes from me entering the car park and paying for my ticket, and it only took that long as I had to circle looking for a space and there was a queue for the machine. I also have to insert the same coins a few times as it kept spitting out my money," said Miss Lennon.

Excel spokeswoman Lucy Montgomery said the 12-minute gap between entering the car park and paying had exceeded the "reasonable time" allowed to purchase a ticket.

She said she could not reveal what the "reasonable time" limit was.

Rapper chemist hit

"DEREK the Hip-Hop chemist" from Dudley is proving a huge hit on the internet as the character spearheads a "rap" to persuade youngsters in the borough to use their local pharmacists. There have been more than 1,000 hits on YouTube in just over a week since NHS Dudley started using the catchy tune, accompanied by a video featuring landmarks and students to promote its "Think Pharmacy" campaign.

Fees set at £9,000 maximum

AT LEAST a third of all universities in the West Midlands will be charging students £9,000 a year from next year, with the rest due to make an announcement on fees in the next couple of weeks.

Birmingham, Warwick and Aston universities have decided that they will be charging the increased rate of £9,000.

Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Birmingham City, Keele and Worcester are due to announce how much they will set fees at over the next few weeks.

Coventry has said its fees will be between £4,600 and £9,000. All universities must submit their plans to the Office for Fair Access before the end of April. It

was revealed yesterday that Derby University will buck the trend of charging students £9,000 for next year by setting fees at less than £7,500 for the majority of courses.

Derby's announcement will be a boost for the Government which has based its future funding of universities on the assumption most will charge around £7,500.

Maximum

The majority of universities are sticking to around £9,000, with the most elite institutions leading the way.

Around 25 English universities have declared their intended fee levels for next year, with most planning to charge £9,000.

Universities planning to charge the maximum amount are Cambridge, Oxford,

Imperial College London, University College London, Manchester, Essex, Leeds, Durham, Lancaster, Bath, Loughborough, Exeter, Sussex, Surrey, Liverpool and Liverpool John Moores, and those in the West Midlands.

Ministers have warned universities that if the majority set fees at, or close to £9,000, their more funding for teaching may be lost.

Liverpool Hope plans to charge less than £9,000, while Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln has said fees for the majority of its courses will be £7,500.

MPs voted to raise tuition fees to £6,000 from £3,600 at the end of last year, with institutions allowed to charge up to £9,000 only in "exceptional circumstances".

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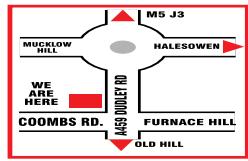
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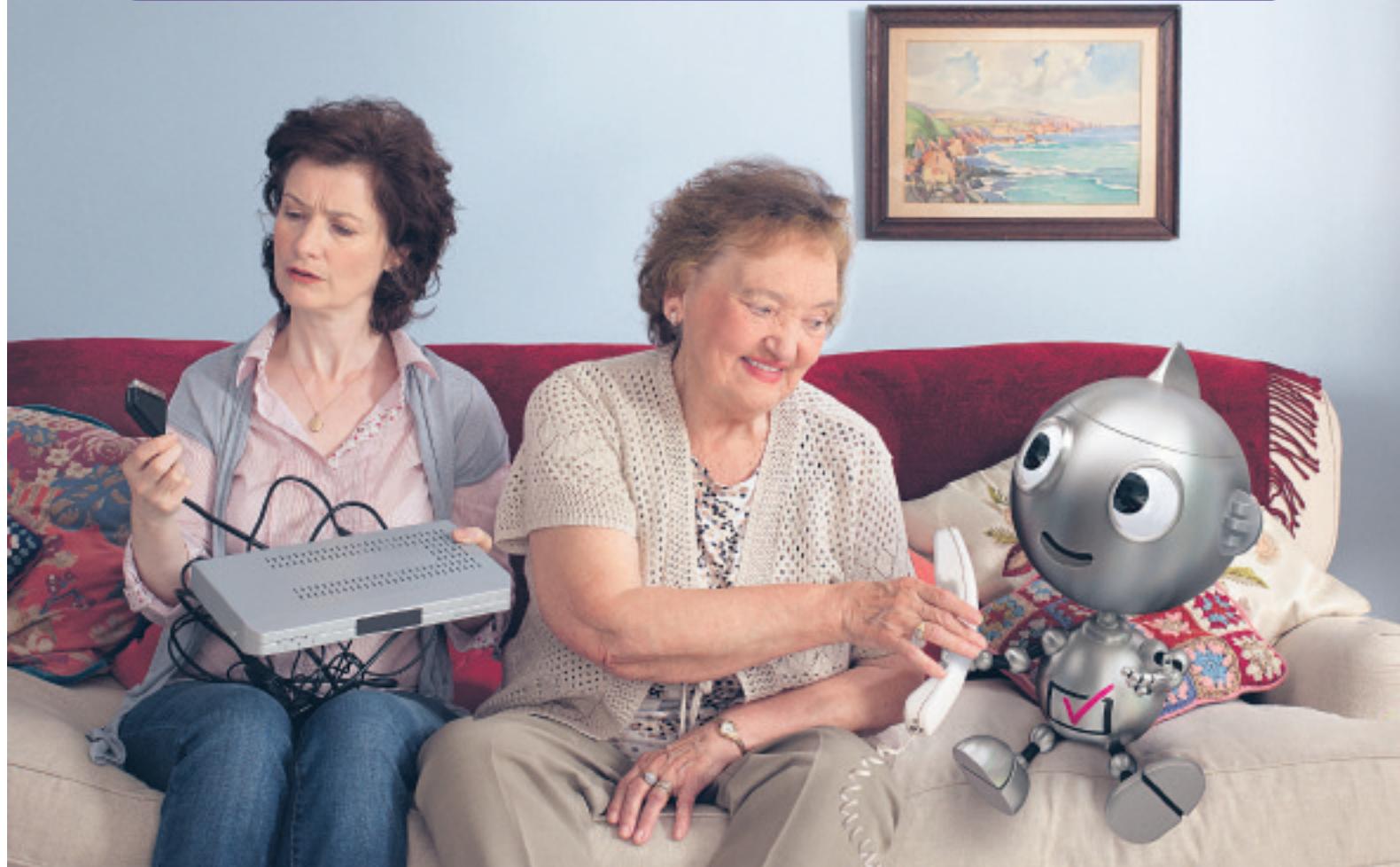
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is run by the BBC

 **switchover
help scheme**

Shopping complex must come down



The mismatched bricks at the neighbouring buildings in Dudley

A NEW shopping complex built at a main gateway into Dudley will be demolished after a row over planning rules, it has emerged.

Businessman John Hart appealed to planning inspectors in Bristol to allow him to keep the development at the former Westfields Stamping site on the corner of Wolverhampton Street and Stafford Street.

But they backed Dudley Council's decision that the mini-retail park, granted permission in 2007, must be knocked down as it looks out of place with neighbouring properties. The council said Mr Hart broke several conditions of the planning consent.

He did not use red bricks similar to that of the locally listed Dudley Snooker Club and also failed to ensure that windows arched to match those at the club.

Message

In July the council handed Mr Hart an enforcement notice ordering him to demolish the four large partially-constructed buildings but he appealed to the Planning Inspectorate.

Council planning committee chairman Councillor Tim Wright said of the inspector's decision: "It sends a clear message out to people in the borough that conditions are not there to be ignored."

Planning Inspector Andrew Hammond said the notice was not a "bolt out of the blue".

He added: "The appellant was given ample opportunity to enter into constructive discussions prior to the service of the enforcement notice but did not do so."

Mr Hart runs several firms, including West Bromwich Construction Ltd, West Bromwich and Dudley Estates Ltd, Dudley, and is also involved in an estates firm in Miami, Florida. He was unavailable for comment.

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Campaign for action on horses goes online

AN online campaign and petition calling for urgent action over stray horses roaming Dudley's streets has been launched by fed-up residents.

The Dudley Borough Against Roaming Horses page on social networking site Facebook has attracted almost 300 followers. More than 160 people have also signed a petition – which will eventually be handed to Dudley Council – since it was started just two weeks ago.

Mother-of-two Mary McCrory, of Kingswinford, who is behind the campaign, said she had become increasingly worried about the welfare of both the wandering horses and people who encounter them.

"There used to be one or two horses around but now we have herds of horses," she said.

"They are lovely animals but it is not safe to let them roam around schools. We want to work with the council and the owners to help provide a safe environment where the animals are given care, food, shelter and medical treatment."

She said there had recently been problems with horses churning up playing fields near Crestwood Park Primary School as well as animals running out into the streets in front of cars.

Mrs McCrory, of Nanaimo Way, said she is expecting her third child, which has made her more concerned about the potential dangers of the horses roaming free.

"We are not looking for animals to be destroyed, just to be looked after and to stop them from roaming into areas where they are putting the elderly, the young and themselves at risk," she added.

Nuisance

Dudley Council is putting the finishing touches to plans which will see the authority team up with police to round up horses that are causing a nuisance.

The council has logged more than 400 calls over stray horse sightings since the start of the year.

The animals have been spotted across Kingswinford, Wordsley, Pensnett and on the Russells Hall estate as well as other parts of the Black Country including Tipton.

Strays block a main road

UP TO 20 stray horses caused havoc when they blocked a main road in Dudley as they sauntered between grass verges to graze.

The animals brought traffic to a standstill in Bromley Lane, Kingswinford, during evening rush hour on April 5.

Passers-by were confronted by the horses which congregated by the railway bridge near the junction with Bryce Road. Some were seen grazing on nearby school fields during the afternoon.

Office worker Rob Hess was among drivers who were delayed. He said some motorists got out of their cars to try and move the horses, but the animals had been stubborn.

"There must have been

around 15 or 20 horses in all. They were crossing the road from one side to another to try and find grassland," he said.

"Some of the drivers did try to shoot them along but it did not work. They were really stubborn and just carried on crossing the road."

"This was a very serious situation because of the numbers of horses involved."

Problem

Newsgate worker Sandra Staves said the horses have become a constant problem in the area over the past few weeks.

"This wasn't the first time we've had them here lots of times," she said. "It was absolutely treacherous with them here at the same time people were coming out of the schools on the road."

Nostalgia to lift charity night



Zoe and Sian Westwood get ready for the 1940s night at the Beacon Centre for the Blind

THE STYLES and sounds of the 1940s will be celebrated by a Sedgley charity to raise cash for blind and partially-sighted people in the region.

The Beacon Centre for the Blind is hosting the event which will include a traditional fish and chip supper.

It will be held at the centre, in Wolverhampton Road East, on May 21. Doors open at 7.30pm. People can dress in fashions of the period if they wish and a prize will be given for the best costume.

Music will be provided by singer Maggie O'Hara and cash raised from the event will go towards services offered by the centre. Tickets at £8.50 for adults and £5 for children under 14 are available from community fundraising officer Karen Gullick on 01902 880111.

Organiser Sian Westwood said: "I am really excited about this event."

"It will be great to see everyone joining in the fun and having a great evening out."

star extra TRAVEL Flower Shows

WHETHER you're a keen horticulturist, a window box dabbler or simply an appreciative admirer there is sure to be a break here for you. Each of these trips include return coach travel and half-board accommodation with the exception of Hampton Court Palace Flower Show which is by rail and is on a bed and breakfast basis.

Chelsea Flower Show, Wisley and Hampton Court From £279

Four days departing May 26

The world's most famous flower show returns with a kaleidoscope of horticulture of the highest quality, featuring the latest trends and designs from top garden designers, nurseries, plantmen and exhibitors. A visit to Wisley, the flagship garden of the Royal Horticultural Society, entrance to Hampton Court Palace Gardens and visits to Royal Windsor in London are included.

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From the high concept, gold standard show gardens to the smallest petal in the flower beds, every detail is taken care of to ensure maximum impact on the visitor. Set in the grounds of London's Royal Hospital in Chelsea, it is a vibrant and joyful riot of colour, invention and beauty. The show sets the trends for the gardens of the future, but also has ideas and advice for even the most modest of plots. A visit to Windsor is also included.

Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)



Kew Gardens Tree Tops Walk and Hampton Court From £125

Two days departing June 18 and September 17

This short break to London's most attractive green borough offers a trees-eye view of the capital's skyline. From 18 metres up in the air, Kew Gardens' treetop walkway brings you close to trees in a way that will take your breath away. Whilst at Hampton Court Palace you can experience the Palace's wonderful interior and the magnificent gardens which are faithfully preserved in the style of Henry VIII's time.

Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)



Hampton Court Palace Flower Show From £219

Three days by rail departing July 8

Hampton Court was the favourite residence of Henry VIII, and even the Tudor King would be blown away by the enchanted garden that comes to life in the palace grounds each summer. Every stage of gardening, from seed, to plot, to plate is represented in the show gardens. Enthusiasts can take the magic home too, by visiting a wide range of horticultural traders. Includes return rail travel and transfers to the show.

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If you want rooms like these make sure your conversion company has the Trust-Mark Logo, which shows it is insured against such problems as unfinished or below standard work



Lofty designs to help expand your house

A RECENT report suggests there will be a shortfall of 750,000 homes by 2025.

One of the worst supply and demand mis-matches will be in the West Midlands which faces a housing gap of 28,000 homes.

A possible way of overcoming this could be to convert loft space. Design consultant Rena Trepka gives some expert advice on transforming the area.

"Converting your attic space is often very cost effective, particularly in areas where property prices and space are at a premium," she said.

Important

"It's certainly less expensive and a lot less hassle than moving home."

"First things first is to dot the Is and cross the Ts to ensure all the important administrative details are sorted out."

This is her three point plan:

1 Even with relaxed planning law check whether or not you will need permission.

2 Your conversion company should have the TrustMark Logo, which shows it is insured against such problems as unfinished or below standard work. Find a firm that gives you free insurance with a TrustMark provider, or expect to pay about 1.5 per cent of the contract value for insurance.

3 Ask for evidence of all guarantees – one year on installed equipment such as plumbing, heating and electrics.



ing, five years on the general build, 10 years on the fibreglass roof and ten years on the roof windows.

Rena, who works for loft conversion specialists Econoloft, said: "Give yourself plenty of time to design this project as rushed decisions are often costly and regretted."

"A specialist should have a proven track record and can advise on all the options and tell you how to get the most of our the space available and your budget."

"Last year Econoloft completed around 200 loft conversions across the country and the most popular was to create an extra bedroom with ensuite facilities."

"But you should also remember that the loft conversion could also result in the rest of your home being re-organised."

"So for example, if you move to your new master suite, one of your children may move into your old bedroom which many need

redecorating. Or, your designer could advise pinching the smallest bedroom and turning that into a bathroom and perhaps allowing your teenager to have a smaller and less expensive conversion."

"A loft conversion should not look or feel like an add-on. The staircase is the key to making a conversion look as though it is part of the original house."

"Wherever possible the stairway should be a natural continuation of the house so that the transition from 'old' to 'new' is seamless."

"The conversion itself, in terms of style should also follow rest of the house."

The homes shortfall prediction comes from the Institute for Public Policy Research.

Text and photographs supplied by Econoloft, which can be contacted at www.econoloft.co.uk or by freephone on 0800 269 765.

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

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As well as the eagerly-anticipated wedding, the Easter holidays are packed with a host of popular shows from the four HD channels available with Freeview HD: BBC One HD, ITV1 HD, 4HD and BBC HD.

Highlights include the return of Britain's Got Talent on ITV1 HD, Mrs Brown's Boys on BBC One HD, Later Live with Jools Holland



on BBC HD and A Place in the Sun on 4HD. And don't forget, with Freeview HD you still get up to 50 standard definition channels including ITV2, E4, More4, BBC Three and 5*.

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Freeview HD boxes are available from just £50, Freeview+ HD boxes start from £200 and TVs with Freeview HD built in start from as little as £320. For full product details, offers and reviews, visit www.freeview.co.uk

You can now get BBC iPlayer on selected Freeview HD TVs and recorders which means you can catch up on last week's BBC shows on your TV.

Once you have connected your TV or

recorder to the internet, you can access BBC iPlayer and, depending on your product, a variety of other online services including YouTube, Facebook and online film rental services such as Lovefilm. For more information visit www.freeview.co.uk

Keep an eye out for the Freeview HD logo and if you haven't already, make sure you've got an HD Ready TV.

You should also check you are in the right area to receive high definition TV from Freeview by entering your postcode into the coverage checker on the website <http://www.freeview.co.uk/HD>

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FAMILY TIME FOR Easter

What a Wizard show

FOLLOW the yellow brick road to the London Palladium for a truly spectacular version of *The Wizard of Oz*.

The public's choice to play Dorothy, Danielle Hope, can never eclipse the movie's legendary star Judy Garland - who performed at the Palladium in her later years - but the *Over the Rainbow* TV series winner from Manchester won a standing ovation at the performance I attended. And quite rightly too because she sang superbly. Her Dorothy radiated a polite determination, even when faced by a wicked witch... and what a witch!

Hannah Waddingham's green, pointy-faced villain is a terrific ogre with Ken Dodd hair and a powerful singing voice heard on *Red Shoe Blues*, the best of four new songs from Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice that bolster the familiar Arlen and Harburg film songs. The scene when she suddenly appears above the stalls on her broomstick drew gasps from the audience.

Gorgeous

Michael Crawford makes his long-overdue return to the West End to play the dual roles of Professor Marvel and the Wizard, singing new song *Wonders of the World*.

Dorothy's three companions are Paul Keating as a floppy, Mickey Mouse-voiced Scarecrow; tap-dancing Tin Man Edward Baker-Duly; and David Ganly as a gay Lion, who is proud to be "a friend of Dorothy" as the euphemism goes. The fourth companion is, of course, Toto, who was played by a well-behaved terrier. The cast may have their hands full when miniature schnauzer 'Dangerous Dave', the TV audience's choice for the role joins the cast this month.

But the biggest impact of this show is its rainbow coloured gitz, glamour and special effects. It begins with a holographic tornado that whisks Dorothy off to Munchkinland. Gorgeous sets unfold from the recently restored Palladium's revolving stage. The Emerald City is an art deco dreamland and the witch's castle is an Eiffel Tower-like rotunda. This trip beyond the rainbow will live long in the memory.

Leon Burakowski



From *Phantom of Oz*, Michael Crawford is reunited with Andrew Lloyd Webber to perform alongside newcomer Danielle Hope at the London Palladium. Right: *The Wicked Witch of the West* (Hannah Waddingham) in her lair. Below: *Emerald City* in the *Merry Old Land of Oz*.

Picture: Keith Pattison

The Wizard of Oz is performed every evening from Tuesday to Saturday to matinees on Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday. For tickets call 0844 412 2957.



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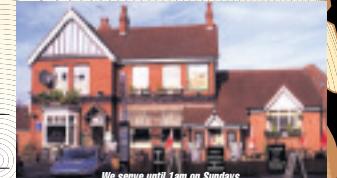
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22.04.11	GOOD FRIDAY	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM
23.04.11	SATURDAY	9.00-5.00PM	9.00-12.00PM	9.00-12.00PM	9.00-12.00PM
24.04.11	EASTER SUNDAY	10.00-5.00PM	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES
25.04.11	BANK HOLIDAY	10.00-4.00PM	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES
26.04.11	TUESDAY	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM
27.04.11	WEDNESDAY	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM
28.04.11	THURSDAY	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM	9.00-7.00PM
29.04.11	ROYAL WEDDING	9.00-4.00PM	9.00-12.00PM	9.00-12.00PM	9.00-12.00PM
30.04.11	SATURDAY	9.00-5.00PM	9.00-12.00PM	9.00-12.00PM	9.00-12.00PM
01.05.11	SUNDAY	10.00-5.00PM	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES
02.05.11	BANK HOLIDAY	10.00-4.00PM	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES	EMERGENCIES

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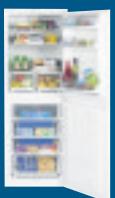


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Chocolate heaven

CADBURY World is heaven for chocoholics, an opportunity to explore the history and manufacturing of the world famous chocolatiers in the very same Bournville factory that turns out millions of chocolate bars.

It is about as close as you are going to get to visiting Willy Wonka's factory with hi-tech fun to sweeten the learning. Nearly nine million have visited since Cadbury World opened in 1990.

The Cadbury tour blends history and information with fun and, at several points during the tour, guides give you treats to eat. During my visit I managed to chomp away on a Curlywurly, a Crunchie, a Dairy Milk and enjoy a delicious drink of warm liquid chocolate, and still had room left for a bag of Chocolate Buttons.

After collecting your ticket at the reception you join a tour that leaves at an allotted time, to ensure the exhibition does not become too crowded.

First you enter the Aztec Jungle to hear about the origins of the cocoa bean, follow holographic images of Spanish explorers who brought the bean to Europe aboard ships (raiding pirates mistook the beans for sheep droppings) and learn how chocolate became the popular drink for high society.

This is where John Cadbury comes in, selling drinking chocolate alongside other favourite new beverages coffee and tea

from a shop in Birmingham's Bull Street in the 1820s. Soon he was sending his chocolate products from Bull Street, which is recreated in the exhibition, to London and beyond.

The Cadbury family, being non-conformist 'Quaker' Christians, wanted to encourage drinking of the beverage as an alternative to alcohol. Their religious beliefs also meant in the 19th Century they were barred from most professions, so threw all their ingenuity and endeavour into the chocolate business. John's descendants discovered the magical combination of milk and chocolate, originating the Dairy Milk bar which is still one of the company's most popular products.

The Cadburys also cared for their workers, establishing Bournville Village on the rural fringe of Birmingham. More about this can be discovered in The Bournville Experience museum, included in the ticket price.

Continue the tour to discover how chocolate is made and then into the packaging plant to watch robots wrapping the bars as they are delivered on conveyors. At this point, as you enter the factory proper, chocoholics may want to take in a big deep breath – you can taste chocolate on the air.

Then it's time to clamber into a Beanmobile for the fun-for-kids ride Cadabra, through a magical land of tiny cocoa bean people and have your photo taken.



Pouring liquid chocolate in the demonstration area at Cadbury World



Thousands of Dairy Milk on the conveyor in the packaging plant

In the demonstration area assistants give you a taste of liquid chocolate and you have the chance to write your name in chocolate. The advertising department offers a nostalgic opportunity to view old TV commercials and also to operate the famous Cadbury drumming gorilla. Kids will love the Purple Planet where hi-tech displays allow them to play in 'chocolate rain' or see themselves as if made of chocolate.

That's the end of the tour proper but a short walk away is Essence where you can add your own favourite ingredients – from a choice including crispy rice, marshmallows, popcorn and more – to make your own choc-o-concoction.

No visit would be complete without shopping in the World's Biggest Cadbury Shop where special offers mean you can pick up favourite chocolate produce, often significantly cheaper than elsewhere. The shop is also open to non-visitors to Cadbury World. Cadbury World gets busy and numbers are limited at peak times so it's best to book. Call 0844 880 7667 or visit the website www.cadburyworld.co.uk. Special events are planned for Easter, which is prime Cadbury Creme Egg season.

There are a range of ticket prices including £43.20 for a family of two adults and two children.

Merlin's Camelot magic comes to Warwick Castle

EASTER at Warwick Castle promises to be hot stuff with the arrival of a fire-breathing dragon.

A spellbinding new attraction, Merlin: The Dragon Tower will be the first experience inspired by the hit BBC TV family drama set in the age of Arthurian legend.

At the heart of the attraction is a magical mirror, which allows the bravest sorcerers to meet The Great Dragon. Merlin tells the story of a young wizard as he struggles to survive in a kingdom where magic is banned while protecting Camelot and helping Arthur to fulfil his true destiny. Merlin: The Dragon Tower gives visitors the chance to step into that magical world.

This Easter weekend (April 22-25) will see the castle grounds transformed into a Medieval Battle Scene, recreating the famous Battle of Barnet. Re-enactors will spend four days eating, sleeping and living on site. Castle visitors will be able to see how an encamped army would live, how they would cook, amuse themselves and prepare their weapons for battle. In honour of the royal wedding, the castle is conjuring up some of Britain's greatest monarchs to meet guests and regale them with tales. Among the guests will be King Henry VIII and Queens Elizabeth I and Victoria.

Throughout the Easter holidays, visitors can also catch the Warwick Warriors, who will showcase their arsenal of weapons, or watch the Raising of the Portcullis. Nikita the sea eagle and fellow birds of prey return for the spectacular Flight of the Eagles show, where guests will meet the resident falconer. Brave souls can



The castle's new attraction was inspired by the popular TV show Merlin, about the wizard's boyhood days

experience The Castle Dungeon.
To find out more about Warwick Castle at Easter, visit www.warwick-castle.com or call 0871 265 2000.

Walking on wild side with lemurs



The safari park near Kidderminster is now home to lemurs

WEST Midland Safari Park has opened the largest Lemur walk-through reserve in the country.

The new exhibit Walking with Lemurs consists of a natural woodland walk now home to Ring Tailed Lemur, White-Fronted Brown Lemur and Red Bellied Lemur, all natives of Madagascar.

Lemurs have free range of the woodland, which is located in an area of the grounds landscaped by Capability Brown in the 1800s.

This is the first time that visitors to the park will be able to see and interact with this species, introduced for 2011.

There is a programme of daily talks and Lemur-themed activities. The new Lemur exhibit took seven months to complete and is part of a £1m investment in new attractions being launched this year.

Bob Lawrence, Director of Wildlife, said: "Lemur are fascinating animals that often display unusual behaviour that is both captivating and rather cheeky."

"They are habitual sunbathers and enjoy nothing more than finding a nice perch to while away an hour or so. When roused, part of their communication process can become somewhat theatrical too, particularly when they engage in stink fights by waving their scent-marked tail at an opponent."

West Midland Safari and Leisure Park is open daily, including Bank Holidays, up to Friday, November 4. Walking with Lemurs is included as part of the standard admission charge of £13.99 for adults, £11.99 for children. A family saver ticket costs £46.76, which admits two adults and two children.

Admission also includes a free return ticket. Amusement rides are charged extra in all cases.

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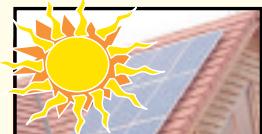
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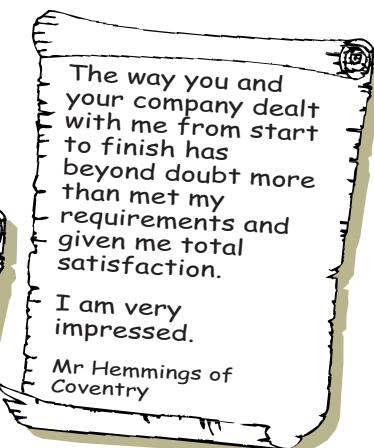
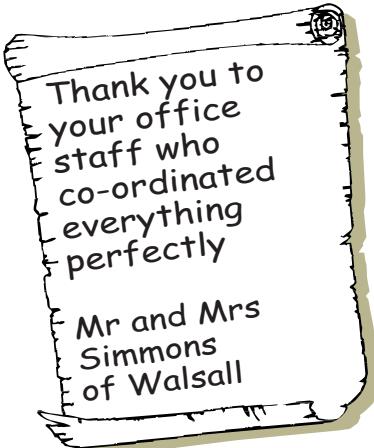
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EUROVISION:
YOUR COUNTRY
NEEDS BLUE

BBC1, 6.10pm

When Josh Dubovice came last at the 2010 Eurovision Song Contest with That Sounds Good to Me, it probably put some British acts off ever entering this year's competition. Luckily boy band Blue weren't about to shy away from the challenge of restoring the nation's pride. This one-off sees how members Lee Ryan, Antony Costa, Duncan James and Simon Webbe are preparing for their appearance in Dusseldorf as they meet choreographers, designers and stylists, before embarking on a publicity tour around Europe. Graham Norton narrates.

6.00 Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix - Qualifying. Live coverage from the Shanghai International Circuit. 8.30 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Great British Menu. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix - Qualifying. 2.30 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Ali Carter v Dave Harold and Mark Williams v Ryan Day. 4.30 Final Score. 5.20 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 5.40 The Impressions Show with Culshaw and Stephenson. Celebrity spoofs, with Jon Culshaw and Debra Stephenson. (R)

6.10 Eurovision: Your Country Needs Blue. The band's preparations to represent the UK in Dusseldorf on May 14. 7.10 So You Think You Can Dance. The first live edition. 8.10 The National Lottery: Secret Fortune. Quiz show, presented by Nick Knowles. Last in the series. 9.00 Casualty. The competition between Jordan and Miriam intensifies. 9.50 Live at the Apollo. With Lee Mack, Rich Hall and Danny Bhoy. (R) 10.20 BBC News: Weather. 10.30 Match of the Day: National Lottery Update. 11.35 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games; Weatherview. 1.00 BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 12.00 Film: The Taming of the Shrew. (1967) Shakespeare comedy, starring the late Elizabeth Taylor. 1.55 Film: William Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice. (2004) Shakespearean drama, starring Al Pacino. 4.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.30 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Continued coverage of the opening day from Sheffield. 5.30 Flit! (R)

6.30 Dad's Army. Jones loses a large sum of money. (R) 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Neil Robertson v Judd Trump and Shaun Murphy v Marcus Campbell. 7.50 Elizabeth Taylor - A Tribute. Profile of the actress, who died last month. 8.50 Timewatch - In Shackleton's Footsteps. (R) 9.50 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. With Ross Noble and Sarah Millican. (R) 10.20 Have I Got a Bit More News for You. With guest host Stephen Mangan. 11.05 Nurse Jackie. The nurse fakes the result of an MRI. 11.35 Later with Jools Holland. With Cee Lo Green, Glasvegas and Bootsy Collins. (R) 12.35 Snooker: The World Championship. 1.25 Snooker Extra. 3.25 Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 Coronation Street. 11.45 This Morning: Saturday. 12.45 Monk. 1.40 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 You've Been Framed! (R) 2.20 Film: Arthur. (1981) Comedy, starring Dudley Moore. 4.10 Regional Programmes. 4.25 ITV News: Weather. 4.40 Live FA Cup Football. Manchester City v Manchester United (Kick-off 5.15pm).

7.20 Sing If You Can. New series. Celebrity singing challenge, hosted by Keith Lemon and Stacey Solomon. 8.20 Britain's Got Talent. New series. Ant and Dec kick off another search to find the nation's most impressive performers, with Amanda Holden joined by new judges Michael McIntyre and David Hasselhoff. 9.50 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Russell Brand. New series. The actor and comedian discusses his marriage to singer Katy Perry, and is questioned about his infamous phone calls to Fawlty Towers star Andrew Sachs. 10.50 ITV News: Weather. 11.05 FILM: Dreamcatcher. (2003) Premiere. Sci-fi horror, starring Morgan Freeman. 1.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.35 Swindon. Laurie and Doug Stephens are discovered in a compromising position. (R) 4.20 ITV News. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Formula Ford Championship. 7.25 The Grid. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.50 T4: Friends. (R) 9.20 T4: Koko Pop. 9.50 T4: Friends. (R) 10.25 T4: Glee. 11.20 T4: Great British Hairdresser. 12.25 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.00 That Paralympic Show. 1.55 Channel 4 Racing. 3.55 The Secret Supper Club. 4.25 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.55 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.00 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. The conclusion of the dinner party challenge in Oxfordshire. (R) 6.30 Channel 4 News. 6.55 4thought.tv. The Queen's role as the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. 7.00 River Cottage Every Day. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall prepares a variety of treats. Last in the series. (R) 8.00 FILM: The Day After Tomorrow. (2004) Disaster thriller, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Dennis Quaid. 10.20 Stand Up for the Week. 11.10 FILM: The War of the Roses. (1989) Black comedy, starring Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner. 12.00 Sex, Secrets and Frankie. (R) 2.15 The Confession. (R) 2.20 Privileged. (R) 3.45 Ugly Betty. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R)

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Zoo Days. (R) 10.05 The Gadget Show. (R) 11.05 NCIS. (R) 12.05 Law & Order: (R) 1.45 Film: Murder Ahoy. (1964) Mystery, starring Margaret Rutherford. 2.55 Film: Guarding Tess. (1994) Comedy drama, starring Nicolas Cage and Shirley MacLaine. 4.45 Film: Private Benjamin. (1980) Comedy, starring Goldie Hawn.

6.50 5 News Weekend.

6.55 NCIS. Tony and Jeannie are held hostage. (R)

7.50 CSI: Grissom's Greatest.

A couple are murdered in the street. Crime drama, starring William Petersen. (R)

8.50 CSI: Miami.

Part one of the discovery of a woman's body at the bottom of a lake leads Horatio to Julia, the mother of his son. Calleigh finds herself targeted in a hate campaign. (R)

9.50 CSI: NY.

A serial rapist is murdered. Crime drama, starring Gary Sinise.

10.50 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.

A casino owner's death leads to an unusual discovery. (R)

11.50 Cops in Crisis.

Harrowing tales of survival told by police officers. (R)

12.55 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal

Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Nick's

Quest. (R) 4.35 HouseBusters. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2

3.10 American Idol 4.10 Britain's Got More Talent. 7.20 Fiddles, Cheats & Scams. 8.20 Help! I Caught It Abroad. 9.20 Life's Funniest Moments. 9.50 Britain's Got More Talent. 10.50 Celebrity Juice. 11.35 Film: American Pie (1999)

ITV3

5.55 Inspector Morse. 8.00 Rosemary & Thyme. 9.00 Midsomer Murders. A craft centre financial ruin has dire consequences. 11.05 Wyldlife

ITV4

11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Chennai Super Kings v Royal Challengers Bangalore and Deccan Chargers v Kings XI Punjab. 8.00 Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors. 9.00 Ultimate Force. 10.35 Film: The Exorcist (1973)

BBC THREE

7.00 Doctor Who. 9.00 Russell Howard's Good News Extra. 9.50 Film: Serendipity (2001). 11.15 Family Guy

BBC FOUR

7.00 Yellowstone. 8.00 If Walls Could Talk: The History of the Home. 9.00 Spiral. 10.55 Twenty Twelve. 11.25 Fanny Hill

E4

1.25 Hollyoaks. 4.00 Make It or Break It. 5.00 Friends. 6.00 Glee. 7.00 The Big Bang Theory. 7.55 How I Met Your Mother. 8.55 Friends. 10.00 Film: My Super Ex-Girlfriend (2006). 11.50 The Cleveland Show

FILM4

3.00 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (1953) Musical comedy, starring Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell. 4.50 A Room with a View (1986). 7.05 The Truman Show (1998). 9.00 Trading Places (1983). 11.15 The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)

EUROVISION:
YOUR COUNTRY
NEEDS BLUE

BBC1, 6.10pm

When Josh Dubovice came last at the 2010 Eurovision Song Contest with That Sounds Good to Me, it probably put some British acts off ever entering this year's competition. Luckily boy band Blue weren't about to shy away from the challenge of restoring the nation's pride. This one-off sees how members Lee Ryan, Antony Costa, Duncan James and Simon Webbe are preparing for their appearance in Dusseldorf as they meet choreographers, designers and stylists, before embarking on a publicity tour around Europe. Graham Norton narrates.

6.10 Eurovision: Your Country Needs Blue. The band's preparations to represent the UK in Dusseldorf on May 14. 7.10 So You Think You Can Dance. The first live edition. 8.10 The National Lottery: Secret Fortune. Quiz show, presented by Nick Knowles. Last in the series. 9.00 Casualty. The competition between Jordan and Miriam intensifies. 9.50 Live at the Apollo. With Lee Mack, Rich Hall and Danny Bhoy. (R) 10.20 BBC News: Weather. 10.30 Match of the Day: National Lottery Update. 11.35 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games; Weatherview. 1.00 BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 12.00 Film: The Taming of the Shrew. (1967) Shakespeare comedy, starring the late Elizabeth Taylor. 1.55 You've Been Framed! (R) 2.20 Film: Arthur. (1981) Comedy, starring Dudley Moore. 4.10 Regional Programmes. 4.25 ITV News: Weather. 4.40 Live FA Cup Football. Manchester City v Manchester United (Kick-off 5.15pm).

7.20 Sing If You Can. New series. Celebrity singing challenge, hosted by Keith Lemon and Stacey Solomon. 8.20 Britain's Got Talent. New series. Ant and Dec kick off another search to find the nation's most impressive performers, with Amanda Holden joined by new judges Michael McIntyre and David Hasselhoff. 9.50 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Russell Brand. New series. The actor and comedian discusses his marriage to singer Katy Perry, and is questioned about his infamous phone calls to Fawlty Towers star Andrew Sachs. 10.50 ITV News: Weather. 11.05 FILM: Dreamcatcher. (2003) Premiere. Sci-fi horror, starring Morgan Freeman. 1.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.35 Swindon. Laurie and Doug Stephens are discovered in a compromising position. (R) 4.20 ITV News. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Formula Ford Championship. 7.25 The Grid. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.50 T4: Friends. (R) 9.20 T4: Koko Pop. 9.50 T4: Friends. (R) 10.25 T4: Glee. 11.20 T4: Great British Hairdresser. 12.25 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.00 That Paralympic Show. 1.55 Channel 4 Racing. 3.55 The Secret Supper Club. 4.25 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.55 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.00 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. The conclusion of the dinner party challenge in Oxfordshire. (R) 6.30 Channel 4 News. 6.55 4thought.tv. The Queen's role as the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. 7.00 River Cottage Every Day. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall prepares a variety of treats. Last in the series. (R) 8.00 FILM: The Day After Tomorrow. (2004) Disaster thriller, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Dennis Quaid. 10.20 Stand Up for the Week. 11.10 FILM: The War of the Roses. (1989) Black comedy, starring Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner. 12.00 Sex, Secrets and Frankie. (R) 2.15 The Confession. (R) 2.20 Privileged. (R) 3.45 Ugly Betty. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R)

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Zoo Days. (R) 10.05 The Gadget Show. (R) 11.05 NCIS. (R) 12.05 Law & Order: (R) 1.45 Film: Murder Ahoy. (1964) Mystery, starring Margaret Rutherford. 2.55 Film: Guarding Tess. (1994) Comedy drama, starring Nicolas Cage and Shirley MacLaine. 4.45 Film: Private Benjamin. (1980) Comedy, starring Goldie Hawn.

6.50 5 News Weekend.

6.55 NCIS. Tony and Jeannie are held hostage. (R)

7.50 CSI: Grissom's Greatest.

A couple are murdered in the street. Crime drama, starring William Petersen. (R)

8.50 CSI: Miami.

Part one of the discovery of a woman's body at the bottom of a lake leads Horatio to Julia, the mother of his son. Calleigh finds herself targeted in a hate campaign. (R)

9.50 CSI: NY.

A serial rapist is murdered. Crime drama, starring Gary Sinise.

10.50 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.

A casino owner's death leads to an unusual discovery. (R)

11.50 Cops in Crisis.

Harrowing tales of survival told by police officers. (R)

12.55 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal

Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Nick's

Quest. (R) 4.35 HouseBusters. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2

3.10 American Idol 4.10 Britain's Got More Talent. 7.20 Fiddles, Cheats & Scams. 8.20 Help! I Caught It Abroad. 9.20 Life's Funniest Moments. 9.50 Britain's Got More Talent. 10.50 Celebrity Juice. 11.35 Film: American Pie (1999)

ITV3

5.55 Inspector Morse. 8.00 Rosemary & Thyme. 9.00 Midsomer Murders. A craft centre financial ruin has dire consequences. 11.05 Wyldlife

ITV4

11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Chennai Super Kings v Royal Challengers Bangalore and Deccan Chargers v Kings XI Punjab. 8.00 Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors. 9.00 Ultimate Force. 10.35 Film: The Exorcist (1973)

BBC THREE

7.00 Doctor Who. 9.00 Russell Howard's Good News Extra. 9.50 Film: Serendipity (2001). 11.15 Family Guy

BBC FOUR

7.00 Yellowstone. 8.00 If Walls Could Talk: The History of the Home. 9.00 Spiral. 10.55 Twenty Twelve. 11.25 Fanny Hill

E4

1.25 Hollyoaks. 4.00 Make It or Break It. 5.00 Friends. 6.00 Glee. 7.00 The Big Bang Theory. 7.55 How I Met Your Mother. 8.55 Friends. 10.00 Film: My Super Ex-Girlfriend (2006). 11.50 The Cleveland Show

FILM4

3.00 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (1953) Musical comedy, starring Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell. 4.50 A Room with a View (1986). 7.05 The Truman Show (1998). 9.00 Trading Places (1983). 11.15 The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)

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• Blackpool • Scarborough • Weston • Ilfracombe

• Torquay • Paignton • Eastbourne • Folkestone

• Isle of Wight • Tenby • Weymouth

• Scotland • Tynemouth • Lake District

• Skegness • Yarmouth • Mystery

• PricewaterhouseCoopers • Peter Pan

PLUS MANY MORE - DEPARTING ALL YEAR

4/5 DAYS BY COACH

• Brighton • Newquay • Llandudno

• Blackpool • Scarborough • Weston • Ilfracombe

• Torquay • Paignton • Eastbourne • Folkestone

• Isle of Wight • Tenby • Weymouth

• Scotland • Tynemouth • Lake District

• Skegness • Yarmouth • Mystery

• PricewaterhouseCoopers • Peter Pan

PLUS MANY MORE - DEPARTING ALL YEAR

4/5 DAYS BY COACH

• Brighton • Newquay • Llandudno

• Blackpool • Scarborough • Weston • Ilfracombe

• Torquay • Paignton • Eastbourne • Folkestone

• Isle of Wight • Tenby • Weymouth

• Scotland • Tynemouth • Lake District

• Skegness • Yarmouth • Mystery

• PricewaterhouseCoopers • Peter Pan

PLUS MANY MORE - DEPARTING ALL YEAR

4/5 DAYS BY COACH

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THE CUBE

ITV1, 7pm

Some viewers may look at some of the challenge on this game show and ask themselves "So what's the big deal?" But while the tasks may look simple from the comfort of your own armchair, it's an entirely different story when you're performing them in a transparent box with an audience and Phillip Schofield watching your every move. If that wasn't enough pressure, there's also the knowledge that millions of viewers will later be watching you at home, analysing your every move thanks to the slow-motion replays and cameras that capture you from every angle. And of course, the fact there's £250,000 at stake won't help with the contestants' nerves either.

6.00 Breakfast. 7.00 Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix Live. The third race of the season from Shanghai (Start-time 8.00am). 10.15 London Marathon 2011. Further live coverage of the 31st staging of the annual event. 2.00 The Politics Show. 3.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. 3.05 Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix. 5.05 Points of View. 5.20 Songs of Praise. 5.55 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.15 Land Girls. Drama, starring Beccy Gemmill and Jo Woodcock. (R)

7.00 Countryfile. Julia Bradbury meets the groundsmen who maintain the Old Course at St Andrews, and Matt Baker learns why the local landscape made the Scottish town an ideal location for golf.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. More items are valued at Hatfield House, Hertfordshire.

9.00 Britain's Royal Weddings. Part one of two. Presented by Sophie Raworth.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 10.25 Does Christianity Have a Future? Ann Widdecombe explores Christianity's role in modern Britain.

11.25 FILM: Absolute Power. (1997) Crime thriller, starring Clint Eastwood; Weatherview.

1.25 Sign Zone: MasterChef. (R) 2.25 Holby City. (R) 3.25 Men of Rock. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Digital

6.00 CBeebies. 6.55 CBBC. 7.25 Match of the Day. (R) 8.30 London Marathon 2011. Live coverage of the 31st staging of the annual event. 10.15 Something for the Weekend. 11.15 MasterChef. (R) 12.15 Film: Alvarez Kelly. (1966) American Civil War Western, starring William Holden. 2.05 EastEnders. 4.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Stephen Hendry v Joe Perry and Shaun Murphy v Marcus Campbell.

6.00 London Marathon 2011 Highlights. Action from today's 31st staging of the annual event.

7.00 Alex Higgins: The People's Champion. The life of the two-time world snooker champion. (R)

8.00 The Secrets of Scott's Hut. Ben Fogle travels to Antarctica, where he joins a project hoping to preserve the hut from which explorer Captain Robert Scott launched his ill-fated polar expedition in 1911.

9.30 Alaska: The Arctic Man Ski & Sled-Go Classic. Ed Leigh and Graham Bell compete in the Arctic Man event. (R)

10.00 Match of the Day 2. Highlights of Arsenal v Liverpool.

10.50 FILM: Apocalypto. (2006) Mayan historical adventure, starring Rudy Youngblood and Dalia Hernandez.

1.00 Snooker: The World Championship. 1.50 Snooker Extra. 3.50 BBC News.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 May the Best House Win. (R) 10.25 Sing if You Can. (R) 11.30 This Morning: Sunday. 12.30 Dinner Date. (R) 1.25 ITV News; Weather. 1.30 Film: Columbo: The Bye-Bye Sky-High. 10. Murder Case. (1977) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. 3.00 Britain's Got Talent. (R) 4.30 Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.30 Regional Programmes.

6.45 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 The Cube. A fitness instructor takes up the challenge, aiming to complete tasks within the confines of a large transparent cube to win a jackpot of £250,000.

8.00 Lewis. While investigating the death of a student during a clinical trial, Lewis uncovers a web of lies, jealousy and madness among those taking part.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 FA Cup Highlights. The semi-finals at Wembley Stadium, featuring Manchester City v Manchester United and Bolton Wanderers v Stoke City, as the line-up for the showpiece match was confirmed.

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union. Highlights of the latest top-flight fixtures.

12.10 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.00 Film: A Mighty Wind. (2003) Spoof documentary, starring Eugene Levy. 3.30 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.20 Sali. Mali. (R) 6.25 The Hoobs. (R) 6.50 The Track and Field Show. (R) 7.20 Freesports on 4. 7.45 T4: Friends. (R) 8.15 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: Hollyoaks. 11.20 T4: Being N-Dubz in America and Beyond. (R) 11.55 T4: Glee. (R) 12.55 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 1.25 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 2.25 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 3.00 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 4.05 Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) 4.35 Deal or No Deal. 5.30 Time Team.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

6.55 4thought.tv. A Scottish Catholic discusses the Queen's role in the Church of England.

7.00 Come Dine with Me. A mother-of-two competes against a hairdresser, a businessman and a weight-loss consultant as the dinner party challenge heads to Bedford.

8.00 The Hotel. New series. Documentary following life at a three-star hotel in the Lake District.

9.00 Country House Rescue. Ruth Watson helps a feuding family in Hampshire.

10.00 FILM: East Is East. (1999) Comedy drama, starring Om Puri.

11.55 FILM: 3 Idiots. (2009) Premiere. Comedy, starring Madhavan.

2.50 Never Did Me Any Harm. (R)

3.45 The Play's the Thing. (R) 4.45 Wogan's Perfect Recall. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R)

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) 6.25 Fireman Sam. (R) 6.35 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. (R) 6.50 The Beeps. (R) 7.00 Mo Mac. (R) 7.05 Chiro. (R) 7.15 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) 7.30 Noddy in Toyland. (R) 7.40 Igam Ogam. (R) 7.50 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) 7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.10 The Adventures of Bott Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.25 Hana's Helpline. (R) 8.35 Family! (R) 8.45 Rupert Bear. (R) 9.00 Olivia. (R) 9.15 The Men Show. (R) 9.30 Gerald McBoing Boing. (R) 10.00 K-9. 10.35 OK! TV Sunday. 11.35 Family Food Fight. (R) 12.05 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.05 Emergency Bikers. (R) 2.00 Film: Death of a Gunfighter. (1969) Western, starring Richard Widmark. 3.55 Film: Short Circuit. (1986) 5.55 5 News Weekend.

6.00 FILM: Big Daddy. (1999) Comedy, starring Adam Sandler.

7.40 FILM: Spider-Man. (2002) Comic-book adventure, starring Tobey Maguire.

10.00 FILM: Single White Female. (1992) Psychological thriller, starring Bridget Fonda and Jennifer Jason Leigh.

1.10 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 UEFA Europa League Highlights. 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45

Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2

4.00 The Planet's Funniest Animals 4.30 Britain's Got More Talent 5.30 The Cube: Celebrity Special 6.30 The Only Way Is Essex 8.00 Kerry Katona – The Next Chapter 9.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Russell Brand 10.00 The Way Is Essex 10.45 Film: Batman Forever (1995)

ITV3

3.55 The Turn of the Screw 5.50 Agatha Christie's Poirot 7.55 Mr Bean 9.00 Film: Fierce Creatures (1997) 10.55 Film: The Constant Gardener (2005)

ITV4

11.00 British Touring Car Championship. Round two from Donington Park. 6.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Kolkata Knight Riders v Rajasthan Royals. 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union 9.00 Film: Conan the Destroyer (1984) 11.05 Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors

BBC THREE

7.00 Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix Highlights 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Police Academy UK 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 American Dad! 11.30 White Van Man

BBC FOUR

7.00 The Great Estate: The Rise & Fall of the Council House 8.00 Amazing Gracie: The Gracie Fields Story 9.00 Gracie! 10.20 Spitfire Women 11.20 Robert Plant: By Myself

E4

3.50 Film: Bride and Prejudice (2004) 6.00 Friends 7.00 90210 8.00 Friends 9.00 Desperate Housewives 11.00 Being Erica 11.55 The 100 Greatest Stand Ups 2010

FILM4

3.10 Carry On Sergeant (1958) 4.50 Batman (1966) 6.50 Grease (1978) 9.00 Brassed Off (1996) 11.05 M*A*S*H (1970)

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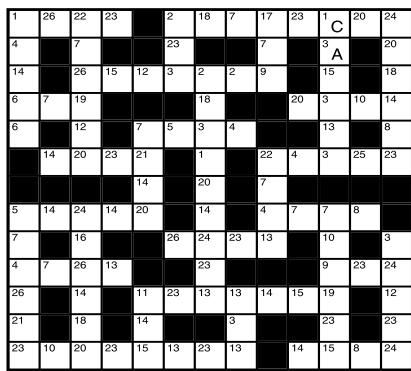
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No.112

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
G	V	O	H	N	K	D	C	T	E	L	P	Z
J	X	M	F	U	A	Y	Q	I	R	W	S	B
14	15	16	17	18	9	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1

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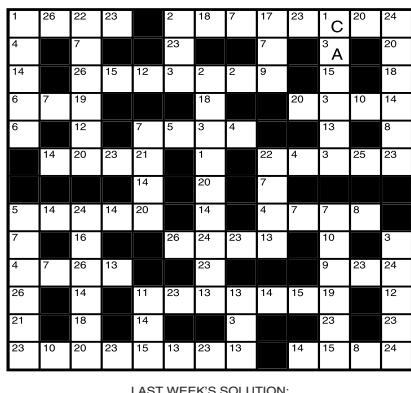
Express & Star

Brain Gym

No.112

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
C						
2	15					
3		A				
4			16			
5				17		
6					18	
7						1
8						2
9						3
10						4
11						5
12						6
13						7
14						8
15						9
16						10
17						11
18						12
19						13
20						14
21						15
22						16
23						17
24						18
25						19
26						20

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

4. Fair game? (7)
8. Invest, but not in vest! (6)
9. Maintains a return pressure (7)
10. An expression of surprise in a legal document (6)
11. Big cuts she makes in fuel (6)
12. It's taken at one's leisure (8)
18. I leave the law to the big guns (8)
20. It's nonsense to compel a number (6)
21. Crafty, like a well-stocked gallery? (6)
22. We can do with it! (7)
23. Sole man without a grave (6)
24. A number, for example, finishes the inscriptions (7)

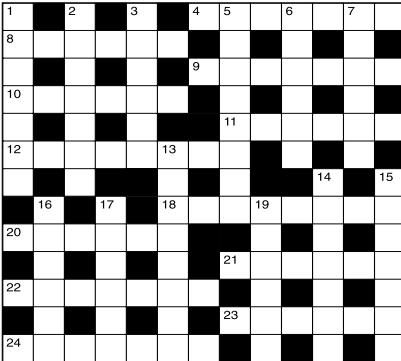
Quick Clues:

Across

4. Skill (7)
8. Undid (6)
9. Upper hand (7)
10. Idle talk (6)
11. Engage (6)
12. Benevolence (8)
18. Outer (8)
20. Whirlpool (6)
21. Frugality (6)
22. Absorbed (7)
23. Limited (6)
24. Capricious (7)

Down

1. Give credit? (7)
2. Where there's no bar for ship repairers? (3,4)
3. Describes a sailor given a mission (6)
5. Reconciled to having had to give up work (8)
6. A mark of credit and comfort (6)
7. One eats it, as a matter of course (6)
13. Blend of tea, I sold apart from the rest (8)
14. Showed a sign of cold and contempt? (7)
15. A single way of making an impression (7)
16. Perfect voice for a trio? (6)
17. Develop part of a revolver (6)
19. Close, so ran up to a disturbance (6)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: Photo finish; 9 Lob; 10 Overreach; 11 Pages; 13 Lead off; 14 Fiends; 16 Review; 18 Gentle; 19 Anger; 20 Read aloud; 21 Ate; 22 Ready for bed; Down: 2 Hub; 3 Tools; 4 Feeble; 5 Narrate; 6 Shadowing; 7 Slip of a girl; 8 Shift-worker; 12 Greenage; 15 Die-hard; 17 All off; 19 Adder; 21 Ace. **QUICK** - Across: 1 Intersperse; 9 Asp; 10 Directive; 11 Elder; 13 Asunder; 14 Outset; 16 Zenith; 18 Narrate; 19 Latin; 20 Energetic; 21 Lie; 22 At all events. Down: 2 Nip; 3 Elder; 4 Scream; 5 Exclude; 6 Spindrift; 7 Take counsel; 8 Reprehended; 12 Detergent; 15 Evangel; 17 Nettle; 19 Lucre; 21 Let.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6			1	4	5			
1		9	2			7		
2	7	3			4			
6			8			4		
9					1			
5		6	9		3			
		8	9	6	1			
9	7				4			
	8	4	5			9		

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

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allelectric

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO₂ Emissions 225 - 99 g/km.

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100 km) for the Rio range are: Urban 30.7 (9.2) - 52.3 (5.4), Extra Urban 50.4 (5.6) - 68.9 (4.1), Combined 40.4 (7.0) - 62.8 (4.5). CO₂ emissions are: 165 - 119 g/km.

7 year/100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. Model shown is 1.4 Rio 1 from £7,995 OTR including £550 customer saving. OTR price correct at time of publication and includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customer saving subject to registration between 01 April and 30 June 2011. For warranty terms and exclusions visit www.kia.co.uk or contact your local dealer. 0% finance available on Kia Conditional Sale with a 40% minimum deposit on Kia Rio 1 models. Terms and conditions apply. Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. 18's or over. Kia Financial Services RHT 15%.

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Representative example.

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Total amount payable	£29,129.34
Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	5.10%
Term	36 months

To find out more about the better value IS Advance call 01902 873500 or visit www.lexus.co.uk/wolverhampton



IS Series price start from £24,995 OTR. Model shown IS 200d Advance costing £25,600 OTR including optional metallic paint at £600. Price correct at time of going to press and includes VAT, delivery, full tank of fuel, one year's road fund licence and £550 first registration fee. 9.9% Representative APR over 3 years on Lexus Connect Contract Purchase available on IS 200d Advance and IS 250 Advance when ordered between 4 January and 31 March 2011 and registered and financed between 4 January and 31 March 2011 through Lexus Financial Services, Great British, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey KT8 5JZ at participating Lexus Centres. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Excess mileage charge applies over 30,000 at 12 pence per mile. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s only. Subject to availability. Lexus Centres are independent of Lexus Financial Services.

IS Series fuel consumption figures: urban 16.3-44.8 mpg (17.3-6.3 l/100km), extra urban 33.6-64.2 mpg (8.4-4.4 l/100km), combined 24.4-55.4 mpg (11.60-5.1 l/100km). CO₂ emissions combined 270-134 g/km.



Two families now have the chance to move into a completely furnished new home at no additional cost

A cunning plan for homes at Fox Walk

ONE of the region's leading developers is offering homebuyers in Cradley Heath the chance to move into a family home at Fox Walk, the company's sought-after development on Foxoak Street.

Two families now have the opportunity to move into a new home from Barratt West Midlands, complete with carpets, lights, turfed gardens and curtains for no additional cost, thanks to a new release of Maidstone-style properties on plots 38 and 39.

"Our Maidstone-style homes have been designed with families in mind" says Trevor Dixon, sales manager for the developer.

"And, we're delighted to be able to offer homebuyers some of the useful comforts that make moving home easier and less expensive."

The Maidstone three-bedroomed home has an open-plan kitchen and breakfast room with French doors to the rear garden

as well as a large lounge to the front of the property that is ideal for entertaining friends or relaxing in front of a film.

Upstairs, the home has a master bedroom with en suite bathroom as well as two further bedrooms and an additional bathroom.

"It really is a fantastic home for a growing family and we're really pleased to offer homebuyers such an excellent start to life in their home here," continues Trevor.

Warranty

"And, what's more, with Barratt West Midlands, homebuyers receive peace of mind with our exclusive five year warranty."

The developer's five year guarantee on fixtures and fittings provides cover over and above NHBC standards – absolutely free.

"So you don't have to worry about any unanticipated costs when you move in, which can be a massive help for anyone who is stretching their budget to provide

more space for their family" Trevor adds.

"Homebuyers also have the opportunity to take advantage of our Head Start scheme, which could help them move into one of these terrific properties for as little as £131,707 and with a deposit as low as £6,585."

With Head Start, customers can move into their new home for just 85 per cent of the asking price with the remaining 15 per cent funded by a deferred Barratt loan that is payable either in 10 years or when the home sells, whichever comes first.

For Walk offers a similar two-bedroomed coach house priced at £119,950 and a selection of three- and four-bedroomed houses priced from £139,950.

For more information, contact the sales office on 01384 411538, open daily from 10am to 5pm.

Alternatively, call the sales hotline on 0844 811 9933, open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm or log on to www.barratthomes.co.uk/foxwalk



The stylish, spacious front-facing lounge is ideal for entertaining friends or relaxing in front of a film



CRADLEY HEATH, HADEN ROAD

A part furnished or unfurnished large 1336s detached home, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Part Double Glazing, Downstairs WC, Driveway for 2 Cars, Front and Rear Gardens

£650 PCM



HAGLEY, MILL POOL CLOSE

A luxury first floor apartment, recently refurbished and briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, Two Large Bedrooms, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Benefits Include Communal Gardens, Garage En Bloc. Highly Sought After Area. Private Entrance. Fantastic Countryside Views. Not To Be Missed.

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ROWLEY REGIS, BELL END

A well presented unfurnished modern end terrace house, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Master bedroom with En-Suite, House Bathroom with Shower, Downstairs WC, Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Garage and Driveway Parking, Lovely Rear Garden, Convenient for access into Merry Hill. Near to Junction 2

£595 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, WESLEY CLOSE

An unfurnished modern house, Close to shops and local translation, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Two Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower, En-Suite Shower Room, Front and Rear Gardens, Allocated Parking Spaces

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, THE INFIELD

A beautiful, unfurnished first floor apartment, on a new estate, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen with Fitted Fridge, En-Suite to Master Bedroom, House Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking and Visitor Parking Space

£525 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, HACKETT ROAD

An unfurnished semi detached family home in a popular location, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Double Glazing, Garage, Rear Garden, Spacious Living Room, Dining Kitchen, Guest WC, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens and Driveway Parking.

£500 PCM



HALESOWEN, GREEN LANE

An unfurnished end terrace house close to all amenities, briefly comprising of: Three Double Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs WC, Off Road Parking at Rear

£500 PCM



BEARWOOD, HAGLEY ROAD

A furnished to suit 1st floor flat above shops, close to local shops and buses into Birmingham city centre, briefly comprising of: One Bedroom, further Study/Dressing Room, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, En-Suite Shower Room, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, On Road Parking

£495 PCM



HALESOWEN, ROUNDHILLS TERRACE

A lovely unfurnished mid terrace house, briefly comprising of: Fitted Dining Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, On Road Parking, Gardens

£495 PCM



NETHERTON, ROUND STREET

An unfurnished semi detached house, on a popular road, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Lounge, Double Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Brand New Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway.

£475 PCM



BEARWOOD, HAGLEY ROAD

A furnished to suit 2nd floor flat above shops, close to local shops and buses into Birmingham city centre, briefly comprising of: One Bedroom, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, On Road Parking

£475 PCM



NETHERTON, ROUND STREET

An unfurnished semi detached house, in a popular area, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Fitted kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking

£475 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, TERRACE STREET

An unfurnished first floor flat offers lovely views, and close to shops, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Bathroom with Shower, Garage, Driveway, Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating

£450 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, MIDHILL DRIVE

An unfurnished split level bungalow, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Style Double Bedroom, Beautiful Fitted Kitchen, Driveway Parking, Internal Inspection Recommended, Ideally Suited To A Single Person

£450 PCM



OLDBURY, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD

An unfurnished flat above shops, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Spacious Living Room, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking at Rear

£450 PCM



BRIERLEY HILL, NORWOOD ROAD

Unfurnished end terrace house, briefly comprising of: Gas central heating, Living room, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs bathroom with shower, Two bedrooms, Rear garden, On road parking

£425 PCM



HALESOWEN, LYDE GREEN

An unfurnished 2nd floor apartment, on a popular estate, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Double Glazing, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Garage Parking, Communal Gardens

£395 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, VICTORIA GARDENS

A modern top floor apartment, close to Old Hill town centre, briefly comprising of: One Double Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Storage Heating, Allocated Parking

£395 PCM



HALESOWEN, WILTSHIRE DRIVE

An unfurnished first floor flat, on a popular development, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Garden, Parking

£375 PCM



DUDLEY, JUNCTION STREET

A furnished first floor flat, briefly comprising of: Warm Air Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom with NO SHOWER, Communal Garden, On Road Parking

£350 PCM



DUDLEY, BLACKACRE ROAD

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Siviters Lane, Rowley Regis



£125,000

NEW

5% VENDOR GIFT. Three Bedroom end terrace property, hallway, lounge/diner, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, double glazed and centrally heated, rear garden.

Durham Road, Rowley Regis



£59,950

Two Bedroom ground floor flat, entrance via shared security door, lounge, bathroom, Allocated Parking, NO UPWARD CHAIN

Hawne Lane, Halesowen



£149,950

Three bedroom traditional semi detached house, lounge, dining room, kitchen, first floor bathroom and loftroom, driveway and rear garden.

Burton Grove, Cradley Heath



£132,000

REDUCED

A Three Bedroom Semi detached with en-suite to main, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Double glazing + Central heating

Harrold Road, Rowley Regis



£120,000

REDUCED

A Three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, utility, shower room and wc, bathroom, driveway and rear garden, double glazing and central

Hope Street, Halesowen



£80,000

REDUCED

A two bedroom ground floor flat, Hallway, kitchen, bathroom, front + rear gardens en- bloc garage

Ruskin Avenue, Rowley Regis



£79,950

Two bedroom end terrace property offering lounge, kitchen, first floor bathroom and rear garden.

Maple Road, Halesowen



£105,000

A two bedroom terraced property, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, rear garden and patio area, double glazed and centrally heated

Lyde Green, Halesowen



£70,000

REDUCED

1 Bedroom 1st floor flat extended lease 151 years remaining until 2162, garage + driveway, bedroom, bathroom, lounge, kitchen, central heating + double glazing

Summer Road, Rowley Regis



£100,000

5% VENDOR GIFT AVAILABLE Two bedroom end terraced house kitchen, lounge, first floor bathroom, driveway and rear garden, double glazed and central heating

Brickhouse Road, Rowley Regis



£100,000

A four bedroom mid terrace property comprising porch, downstairs bedroom and wet room, lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom, central heating and double glazing driveway, rear garden.

Highfield Road, Rowley Regis



£90,000

Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow comprising lounge/diner, kitchen, bathroom, front and rear gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN

Woolpack Close, Rowley Regis



£85,000

A two Bedroom end terrace property comprising in brief of lounge, kitchen, first floor bathroom, rear garden. Double glazing and No Upward Chain.

Bell End, Rowley Regis



£95,000

5% VENDOR GIFT AVAILABLE. A two bedroom mid terrace property comprising lounge, kitchen, bathroom, driveway and rear garden, double glazed and part central

Talbot Street, Halesowen



£109,950

5% Vendor Gifted. Terraced property, two reception rooms, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, rear garden, double glazed

32 Beauty Bank, Cradley Heath



£113,000

PUBLIC NOTICE 32 BEAUTY BANK CRADLEY HEATH B64 7HZ We have received an offer of £113,000 on the above property. Any interested party must submit any higher offer to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place. Dixons Estate Agents 77 High Street Halesowen B63 3BQ

Park Avenue, Rowley Regis



£129,950

REDUCED

Three Bedroom semi detached property, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, driveway and rear garden, central heating and double glazing.

Narrow Lane, Halesowen



Offers Over £130,000

A three bedroom property comprising porch, lounge, kitchen, first floor bathroom, garage, driveway and rear garden, double glazing and central heating.

Elbow Street, Cradley Heath



£155,000

Three bedroom property with ensuite to main, wc, lounge, kitchen/diner, conservatory, garage, bathroom, driveway, rear garden, double glazing and central heating

23 Albert Road, Halesowen



£92,500

PUBLIC NOTICE 23 ALBERT RD, HALESOWEN, B63 4SW. We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £95,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place

Spies Lane, Halesowen



£174,950

Four Bedroom Semi Detached Property, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Conservatory, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway, Double Glazing and Central Heating, Garage.

Winsford Close, Halesowen



£180,000

3 Bedroom semi detached property, 3 Reception rooms, breakfast kitchen, Bathroom, Driveway.

207 Pennicricket Lane, Rowley Regis



£100,000

Public Notice 207 PENNICKRICKET LANE ROWLEY REGIS B65 0PF We have received an offer of £93,500 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place



Andrew Grant



NEW

ENVILE ROAD, KINVER
A Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
Situated In This Sought After Location
Hall, Sitting Room With Dining Area, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Conservatory, Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN.
OFFERS OVER: £300,000
Contact: Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



NEW PRICE

HEATH LANE, OLDSWINFORD
A Deceptively Spacious Well Presented Five Bedroom Detached Residence Situated In This Popular Location.
Breakfast kitchen & laundry, 3 reception rooms, 2 en-suites and main bathroom, 5 bedrooms including master bedroom suite with dressing room, conservatory, large garden. ALL PROCEEDABLE OFFERS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED. PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED FOR SMALLER PROPERTIES WITHIN THE STOURBRIDGE AREA.

GUIDE PRICE: £395,000
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



PARK ROAD, HAGLEY

By Direction of the Executors of the Lilian Pioli Will Trust.
Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Breakfast Room, Cloakroom, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, 2 Car Garage, Ornamental Gardens, 1,700 sq ft (160 sq m) approx.

GUIDE PRICE: £450,000

Contact: Andrew Grant or Julia Boehm on 01905 734735



OPEN HOUSE 16th APRIL 11am-1pm

WYCHBURY HOUSE, HAGLEY

An Immaculate and Deceptively Spacious 5 Bedrromed (Plus Dressing/Storage Room) Family Residence with Views of Green Belt Countryside. ★ All Proceedable Offers Considered ★ Comprising: Reception Hall, Fitted Cloakroom, Study, Dining Room, Sitting Room, Dining Kitchen with family area, Utility, Landing, 5 Bedrooms, 5 En Suites, Dressing/Storage Room, Double Garage, Extensive Rear Garden. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

GUIDE PRICE: £650,000

Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



NEW

ASHENHURST ROAD, DUDLEY
An Immaculately Presented One Bedroom First Floor Apartment in a Popular Location
Comprising: Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom, Inner Lobby with Storage Area, Loft Space, Rear Garden.
GUIDE PRICE: £66,500
Contact Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



NEW

OAKHILL DRIVE, BRIERLEY HILL
A Well Presented Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment In A Popular Location
Comprising: Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom.
GUIDE PRICE: £109,950
Contact: Leoni Ready 01384 370232



NEW

WALNUT CLOSE, PEDMORE, STOURBRIDGE
A Well Presented Two Bedroom Link Detached Bungalow Situated in a Sought After Area
(Age Restriction Applies).
Comprising: Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Communal Gardens, Carport.
GUIDE PRICE: £189,500
Contact Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



NEW

THE BROADWAY, NORTON
A Three Bedroom Semi Detached Residence Situated In This Popular Location
Porch, Reception Hall, Downstairs WC, Extended Sitting Room, Dining Room, Extended Dining Kitchen with Utility Area, Landing, Three Bedrooms, House Bathroom, Garage, Front and Rear Gardens.
GUIDE PRICE: £220,000
Contact: Leoni Ready on 01384 370232



ALBERT ROAD, HALESOWEN
A Well Maintained Detached Residence In This Sought After Location
Reception Hall, Downstairs WC, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Dining Room, Family Room/Bedroom four, Master Bedroom With En-Suite, Two Further Bedrooms, Bathroom.
GUIDE PRICE: £235,000
Contact: Sadie Grant on 01384 370232



www.andrew-grant.co.uk



Residential Sales & Lettings

**558, Hagley Road West
Quinton, Birmingham**

**Tel: 0121 422 9990
www.stjamesestateagents.com**



STANFIELD ROAD
Delightfully presented traditional semi detached family residence located on a popular residential road in Quinton comprising reception hall, spacious through lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, side utility, three good sized bedrooms, modern first floor bathroom, double glazed front door, double tarmac driveway to front. The property also benefits from having gas central heating and double glazing (where specified) and alarm. Viewing is highly recommended.
£174,950



OLDBURY
SUNNIBANK ROAD
Well presented traditional style semi-detached residence located in a popular residential road and comprising enclosed porch, reception hall, downstairs guest wc, dining room, kitchen, two double bedrooms, modern first floor bathroom, double garage, driveway, gas central heating and double glazing (where specified). Viewing is highly recommended.
£169,950



OLDBURY
ELM CROFT
Double-front traditional style semi-detached residence in need of some modernisation located within a popular residential road off Oak Road in Oldbury. Accommodation comprises central reception room, double aspect lounge/dining room, kitchen, two double bedrooms, master bedroom having walk-through dressing area, modern re-fitted first floor bathroom, rear garden, driveway, side garage, double glazing and double glazing (where specified). The property benefits from comprehensive day-to-day amenities close at hand easy access to Birmingham City Centre.
£162,950



BEARWOOD/SMETHWICK
CALTON ROAD
Well presented traditional style semi-detached residence located within easy reach of both Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods comprising enclosed porch, entrance hallway, through lounge/dining room, kitchen, two double bedrooms, modern first floor bathroom, front and rear gardens, central heating (where specified), double glazing (where specified). The property benefits from comprehensive day-to-day amenities close at hand easy access to Birmingham City Centre.
£162,500



OLDBURY
BUCKLE ROAD
Delightfully presented spacious mid terraced residence comprising entrance hall, spacious through lounge/dining area, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom/wc, three bedrooms, first floor bathroom, separate wc, rear garden, off road parking to front, double glazing, gas central heating and alarm. Viewing is recommended.
£124,950



EDGBASTON
BRIXTON ROAD
Well presented, deceptively spacious traditional style mid terraced residence comprising: Reception hall, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom/wc with walk-in shower, three double bedrooms and front and rear gardens. The property also benefits from having double glazing and feature gas fuel stove. Internal viewing is highly recommended.
£123,950



TRIMLEY ROAD
Delightfully presented traditional style mid terraced residence comprising reception hall, through lounge/dining area, modern double glazed conservatory, fitted kitchen, covered side entrance/utility area, three good sized bedrooms, modern first floor bathroom, double garage, driveway, double glazing, gas central heating and alarm. Ideal first time buyers or investment purchase. Viewing is highly recommended.
£119,995



QUINTON
WARBLE ROAD
Delightfully presented traditional style semi-detached residence located on a popular residential road in Quinton close to the new Tesco's superstore. The property comprises: entrance hall, through lounge/dining area, modern fitted kitchen, covered side entrance/utility area, three good sized bedrooms, modern first floor bathroom, double garage, driveway, double glazing and gas central heating. Excellent opportunity for first time buyers or investment purchase. Viewing recommended.
£114,950



WANTED - WANTED - WANTED
Properties To Sell and let **URGENTLY** Required in the following areas: Quinton, Oldbury, Bartley Green, Bearwood, Halesowen, Rowley Regis, Blackheath, Warley Woods, Edgbaston, Harborne, Tividale, Dudley, Netherton, Cradley Heath, if you have we would be delighted to speak to you.
0121 422 9990
NO SALE NO FEE - NO LET NO FEE



OLDBURY
FARM ROAD
Well presented traditional style semi-detached residence in popular road comprising enclosed porch, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom/wc with walk-in shower, three double bedrooms and front and rear gardens. The property also benefits from having double glazing and feature gas fuel stove. Internal viewing is highly recommended.
£112,500



QUINTON
WARBLE ROAD
Traditional style semi-detached residence comprising: Reception hall, through lounge (with dining area), kitchen, covered side entrance, ground floor wc, rear veranda, two bedrooms, first floor bathroom with shower and rear garden, gas central heating (where specified) and double glazing (where specified). No upward chain. Viewing is recommended.
£99,950



WOLVELEY HOUSE
Delightfully presented spacious modern second floor apartment located in an attractive communal grounds between Northfield and Loxley. Comprising: entrance hall, through lounge/dining area, modern double glazed kitchen/diner, double bedroom, modern bathroom/wc with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, feature Juliet balcony, rear access, intercom system and secure gated allocated parking. Internal viewing is essential.
£89,995



OLDBURY
SILVERLANDS AVENUE
Delightfully presented property located in quite location off Moat Road close to Barrford Hill Park in Oldbury. Comprising: entrance hall, through lounge/dining area, modern double bedrooms, first floor shower room/wc, double glazing, gas central heating, off road parking to front and large shared rear garden. This property would suite a professional couple or a single person.
£600 PCM



BARTLEY GREEN
JIGGINS LANE
Delightfully presented much improved semi-detached residence comprising: enclosed porch, reception room, down stairs WC, open plan kitchen/diner, lounge, double bedrooms, modern fitted kitchen (with built-in oven and hob), three bedrooms, modern first floor bathroom/wc (with shower), double glazing, gas central heating, off road parking to front and large shared rear garden. This property also benefits from having double glazing with full width block paved drive to front and rear garden. Viewing is highly recommended.
£575 PCM



OLDBURY
BIRCHFIELD LANE
Recently modernised well presented semi-detached family residence comprising: Entrance hall, lounge, modern re-fitted breakfast kitchen, three bedrooms, first floor re-fitted bathroom/wc, double glazing, central heating. The property also benefits from having double glazing with full width block paved drive to front and rear garden. Viewing is highly recommended.
£500 PCM



OLDBURY
STANLEY ROAD
Refurbished spacious flat located above Hair Razors salon on Stanley Road in Oldbury comprising private front door to hall, entrance hall, modern double glazed kitchen/diner, double bedrooms, modern bathroom/wc with separate shower, double glazing, gas central heating, intercom system, parking space to rear via secure gates. Viewing is recommended.
£550 PCM



OLDBURY
TIFFORD ROAD
Delightfully presented ground floor apartment located within the exclusive 'The Wharf' development built by Bellway Homes comprising central reception hall (with built-in storage), lounge with open plan fitted kitchen, double bedroom, luxury bathroom/wc with separate shower, double glazing, double glazing and intercom system. The property also benefits from having double glazing with full width block paved drive to front and rear garden. Viewing is highly recommended.
£400 PCM

classified

£180+
For Large
Cars
Cars, Vans, Campers,
4x4s, Boats, etc.
24 hr collection - 7 days. Any area
07500 042351

vehicles wanted

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Used cars wanted for cash,
Top prices paid. HP settled.
Buyer could call.

01562 711083 / 07831 245313.

WANTED Car/Van/Pick-up for
Youth Project. Up to £200. Any
the vehicle. Tel: 07930 365751.
Wolverhampton.

WANTED CHEAP Land Rover
Discovery or Jeep.
Cash wanted.
07753 537474.

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accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS
It is an offence under the
Accommodation Agencies Act
1983, for an Agency to charge a
fee for finding a property, unless
your requirements and/or
payments of premises to let.

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial com-
mitments.

A FLAT TO LET
Three-bed, refurbished,
one car space.
Aldershot Precinct,
Sedgeley,
530pm.

Telephone 07973 278670

A FRENCHIFIED FLAT for
a single person, including cleaning
linen, £115pm. Stafford
Road, 01922 374375. No DSS.

ALL SAINTS W-ton, 3 bed
house, £1,000pm. Tel: 07733
256589

BLOXWICH NORTH, 3 bed semi,
garage, utility. £495pm.
07932 7725642

DARLASTON, 1 bed house, CH,
DG, unfurnished. £380pm. No
garden. Tel: 07977 767084.

DSS FLATS
in W-ton areas for over 25's,
Merridale & Tettenhall. Low
rents, some flex deposits.
Clean & warm properties
Move in today 07733 256589

FLATS TO RENT Willenhall, DSS
welcomes, tenancies over 21, for
Inclusive rent.

**GORNAL VILLAGE
SUPER 1ST FLOOR FLAT**
With attached garage, double
bedroom, kitchen, bathroom
and lounge.
N.S. DSS or pets.
£415pm.
07722 624690.

HIGH QUALITY Studio Flat, fur-
ther Tel: 01922 760028.

bungalows

KIDDERMINSTER Spennells,
attractive two bed detached Bung-
alow, nice quiet area. £144,500
pounds. Please call 01922 639200.

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**I WILL BUY YOUR
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DETACHED HOUSE
Wolverhampton, fantastic
views over countryside, quiet
cul-de-sac, two miles City
centre, 3 / 4 bedroom, light,
spacious, double garage.
Offers around £395,000
07794 784500.

TYWYN, GWNEDD
End of terrace 2 bedroom
immaculate bungalow, large
south facing conservatory to
rear, conveniently located
to local amenities. Upvc DG, GCH
throughout. Private drive and attached
garage. £189,950 or exchange
offer for similar in Lower Gornal
£164,500. Tel: 07972 682579.

WOMBOURNE Detached resi-
dential, 4 bed, 3 reception, Band
G. Third of an acre. £460,000.
Genuine offers. 01922 639556.

REDUCED from £68,000 to
£59,950 for quick sale.
0845 4277581

WARRINGHAM PLACE,
Warrington, 2 bedroom
detached, 1st floor, 1000 ft
from the M6, 10 mins to
Cheshire, 15 mins to
Manchester, 20 mins to
Liverpool. £125,000.

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1st floor, 1000 ft from the
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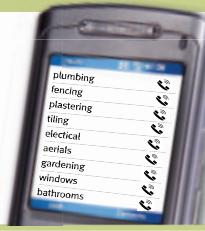
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SHARON tall slim attractive, live alone with no ties, loves romanticising and WLTM man for good times together, maybe more. Any age. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359153

BEAUTY 39 looking for older male for very special relationship. Looks unimportant, Single dad welcome, ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360825

OPTIMISTIC Shropshire lass, slim, gorgeous, seeks good looking 40-50 with GSOH, Bridgnorth area preferred. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362033

ONCE bitten twice shy! Just looking for non complicated life. Attractive, GSOH, you won't be disappointed. Any age/looks/status. Tel. No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364307

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360317

HOME alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old naughty girl looking for fun, can travel. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363277

DEBBIE 38, fit size 12, WLTM intelligent man for fun relationship with no ties. Any age. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360827

CATS DIY, gardening, friendly, educated geek required by ex teacher and sultry lady to share sunny days and starlit nights in my hilltop cottage. Shropshire. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363957

HI am Ellen 45, attractive with statuesque curvy figure looking for an uncomplicated relationship with the under-stating male friend. Call me. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356135

31yr old curly lady looking for open-minded older male for fun and possible meets. Call me. Likes/status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362945

ATTRACTIVE confident brunette, 21yrs likes nights in or out, WLTM older experienced male for mutual understanding, fun and pampering. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364309

FED up with lonely nights! Blonde blue eyed, no childrens, WLTM male, for cosy nights in or out. TLC. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359165

32yr old female, brunette, N/S, likes walks, concerts, theatre, seeks male, 29-35 for friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 309995

ATTRACTIVE 60's lady looking for a good man. Loving, tactile and sensitive can you put the spring back in my step? ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358135

PRETTY female 24, tall, dark hair/eyes, likes meals out, looking for male, any age/status for LTR. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357985

40's lady, lovely curves, solvent but lonely, seeks nice older male to pamper, enjoy fun and affection with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358135

SHROPSHIRE lady, 61, likes countryside, sea, travel, cooking, sewing, lived on farm, seeks special genuine gen for nice match. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 334241

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 329319

CARING and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLTM very caring and honest gentle man. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357985

KIND romantic, loving lady, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357751

BLONDE blue eyed female, no ties, GSOH, wanting open minded, easygoing man for fun and laughs. Any looks/status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363275

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curly blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363428

30YR old attractive confident business woman, frequently in area seeks older gent for mutual spoiling, pampering and fun. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358137

BLACK female, medium build, mother of two, WLTM lively gent, 34-40, N/S with GSOH for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 148702

32YR Irish lass working away from home and friends, lonely and looking for older male companionship with no ties or complications. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363273

OUTGOING sociable young female, 33, average looks, likes pubs, clubs, bowling, cinema, sees gent, 33-45. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362769

LINDA 70's, likes theatre, dancing, seeks nice gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355891

LISA 32, size 8, seeks male, 32-48 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 346713

GENUINE caring, mid 60's female, many interests, GSOH, seeks kind, genuine, loyal male for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349211

SLIM attractive 44yr old female, 5ft 5ins, likes travel, nights out, seeks male, 40-50 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 347465

28YR old Brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380918

PETITE dark haired lady, 43, size 10, seeks considerate, N/S male, 25-40 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 330865

ATTRACTIVE female, 42, slim, Brunette, no ties, N/S, likes travel, nights out, weekends away, seeks slim male, 57-67. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 327579

HELEN 38, one child, blonde hair, 5ft 6ins, slim, attractive, likes swimming, dancing, seeks male, 43-53 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 331399

KIND romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine, caring male for relationship. Telford. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 354553

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 339373

30YR old curly black female seeks older male for cosy nights in. ACA Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357143

FEMALE likes meals out, cinema, nights in, seeks male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361718

WENDY dark hair/eyes, medium build, seeks male for friendship and see what happens. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361589

LADY 70's, seeks gent of similar age for friendship, days out and holidays. Dudley area. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361043

BUBBLY female, 42, young at heart, honest, caring, likes outdoors, cinema, theatre, meals out, seeks like minded male/soul mate, 40-50. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357919

42YR old Sagittarian 5ft 7ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks genuine, caring guy interested in films, meals out, country walks, gardening and travel, 45-55. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349651

ATTRACTIVE slim blonde, 45, seeks honest, caring, genuine male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349651

SLIM attractive, self sufficient lady, 44, GSOH, seeks special mate, 35-50 to share evening in/out, possibly relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 351813

PROFESSIONAL independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companion, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359351

WHITE 50's genuine modern West Brom female, divorced, easygoing seeks fit modern male, 50-60 for LTR. Car owner preferred. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358855

SHROPSHIRE lady, 61, likes countryside, sea, travel, cooking, sewing, lived on farm, seeks special genuine gen for nice match. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 334241

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358995

CARING and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLTM very caring and honest gentle man. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357985

KIND romantic, loving lady, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357751

SUE attractive, slim, 50's, green eyes, varied interests, likes CHAC, OHAC, seeks special guy. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 180587

FEMALE 51, slim, 5ft 4ins, genuine, caring, seeks soul mate who is genuine and caring. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356761

SLIM professional, attractive, amiable lady, 55, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH and enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356811

SHROPSHIRE female, 40, seeks special male to share life with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349211

ATTRACTION 51, slim, good looking guy, 5ft 5ins, good medium build, kind, honest, considerate, own home, seeks genuine, tall, faithful, 6ft plus male, 45-70 with own home for serious relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349211

53YR old female, young at heart, likes cinema, theatre, meals out, pubs, walks, holidays, seeks genuine, trustworthy male, 48-55. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359275

LISA 32, size 8, seeks male, 32-48 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 346918

GENUINE caring, mid 60's female, many interests, GSOH, seeks kind, genuine, loyal male for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349211

SLIM attractive 44yr old female, 5ft 5ins, likes travel, nights out, seeks male, 40-50 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 347465

28YR old Brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380918

YETTE pretty, stylish, modern, 44, outgoing, bubbly, sporty, seeks male for nights in/out. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377432

ATTRACTIVE female, 45, seeks male for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 348142

SLIM attractive, 44, seeks male, 40-50 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 348142

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SLIM attractive, 44, seeks

sport

Five wins out of six for United

Causeway Utd 2 Friar Lane 0

CAUSEWAY celebrated their fifth win in six Midland Alliance games despite a below-par display against struggling Friar Lane & Epworth.

Following the 4-0 home win over Heath Hayes on Thursday, manager Carl Burley opted to rotate his squad and rest a number of players in preparation for the visit of FA Vase finalists Coalville Town which was taking place on Tuesday.

The opening quarter was evenly balanced with the visitors firing a warning on 20 minutes when Jordan Lever broke down the right and crossed for team-mate Ryan Rowley, who failed to connect.

United sprung to life and within four minutes were celebrating the opening goal. A Craig Gregg effort deflected into the path of Sam Beasley, who maintained his cool to score his second goal in three days.

Scramble

On 34 minutes United were awarded an indirect free-kick and Scott Stevenson floated a perfect ball into a packed goalmouth where, following a scramble, Gregg and Aaron Lloyd both had efforts cleared off the line.

Stevenson then unleashed a 30-yard strike that struck the bar.

With half-time looming, Aaron Lloyd punished the visitors for some sloppy defending as his solo run from 30 yards out resulted in his 20th goal of the season.

Midway through the second period United should have added another goal but Beasley fired over under pressure.

Ten minutes from time United had a penalty after a Beasley shot was adjudged to have been handled by Scott Goodman. Lloyd stepped up but the keeper dived right to save.

YELTZ THROUGH THE TRAPDOOR

Halesowen Town 0 Oxford City 3

HALESOWEN were finally condemned to inevitable relegation from the Zamaratto Premier League by three Oxford goals at the start of the second-half in a low-key encounter.

Chances were at a premium all afternoon although Halesowen enjoyed the better of first-half play.

Captain Mark Smith chipped to Kevin Moncheu in the 22nd minute but the defence cleared.

Brown saves point

Tipton Town 1 Dunkirk 1

TIPTON battled back from a goal down to earn a point with a spirited second-half revival.

Ross Brown struck with six minutes left.

With their nearest Midland Alliance challengers Coalville Town losing at home to Westfields, it could prove a vital point.

The top two meet in a fascinating clash.

Dunkirk 'bossed' the first half, Reece Bertram impressing and the lively strikers causing plenty of problems.

Jarrod Westcarro missed the target from close range with a neat shot on the turn while Tipton's Lee Osbourne was denied by Jake Want.

After just 10 minutes a free-kick was punched clear to Daniel Elliott, 30 yards out, who hooked the ball back in and saw it find the net.

Tipton received the proverbial roasting at the break and reacted by taking the game to the visitors as the second half commenced.

Six minutes from time, Marcus Jackson's corner was headed in at the back post by Brown.

Adam Robinson shot deflected to Moncheu six minutes later but this time James Clarke made a last-ditch clearance.

Rory Curtis went closer still when his shot from the left was blocked and late in the first half Andrew Westwood's corner was headed on by Josh Skidmore to Mark Smith but the ball landed on top of the net.

Improving Oxford turned up the heat after the break to grab three goals in a devastating 20-minute spell.

Just 20 seconds into the second period, the prolific Felipe Barcelos put Oxford ahead after turning the last defender to fire home low into the net.

Exchanged

Barcelos was instrumental again when he exchanged passes for Jerome Anderson to double the lead with a left-footed drive beyond Louis Connor in the 63rd minute.

Just two minutes later Barcelos made it a comfortable 3-0 by drilling into the bottom corner from the edge of the area, to give the Yeltz the unwanted statistic of conceding 100 league goals this season.

Oxford goalkeeper White remained an untroubled spectator during the second half and Oxford went close again in the 78th minute when Robinson cleared Marvin Martin's dangerous left-wing cross.

With keeper Neil Page out injured centre-half Iain Bevan donned the gloves and was blameless for both goals.

Dudley went in front when Geoff Hill took advantage of slack defending to

Bustleholme battle to draw

BUSTLEHOLME followed up their cup victory against Tividale with a hard-fought 2-2 draw at Dudley Town.

With keeper Neil Page out injured centre-half Iain Bevan donned the gloves and was blameless for both goals.

Dudley went in front when Geoff Hill took advantage of slack defending to

beat Bevan. Bustleholme drew level on the half-hour when Chris Wattley netted from close range after a Matty Jukes header had cannoned off the bar.

Danny Bell headed Dudley back in front from a corner but Ryan Mitchell, promoted from the youth team, made it 2-2 from a Ryan Trumpeter cross. Hill was dismissed for a second yellow.



Halesowen Town goalkeeper Louis Connor claims a cross to deny Oxford City.

Pictures: Paul Johnson



Action from Halesowen's 3-0 defeat to Oxford

Juniors race to third spot in round one

JUNIOR swimmers from Hale-sowen Swimming Club took a battling third place at Walsall in the first round of the Nuneaton Junior League division one.

The team were facing tough competition in the form of last year's league winners Boldmere A, who duly headed the scorecharts.

Runners-up were another good side in Lutterworth, who were very strong in gaining promotion last year.

After the opening 12 events Boldmere had taken a commanding lead but Hale-sowen were challenging for second spot.

But they were unable to reel in Lutterworth who held on to second place throughout.

Halesowen were forced to settle for a comfortable third place overall, but 45 points clear of fourth-ranked team Solihull.

Double individual event winners

were Katherine Morrice and Ben Meakin in the freestyle and butterfly with Jakob Baker winning the freestyle.

The relay teams swam well with the age nine girls including Kathryn Kelly, Amber Robbins and Lila Shaaban winning the medley and the age nine boys including Thomas Benson, Sam Bailey and Jack Vale taking the freestyle.

Promising

The age 10 boys with James Cuthbert, Jack Simpson and George West won the freestyle relay.

The team including Indu Appanna, Emma Baker, Talia Mitchell, James Benson and Mark Laing won the final relay in fine style.

Coaches made special mention of Amber Robbins who was making her debut.

Results: Boldmere A 243 points, Lutterworth 211, Halesowen 192, Solihull 147, Stratford Sharks 146, Walsall 111.

All looks good in garden of Eden

Girls League

Halas Hawks 2 Kinver 1 HALAS Hawks under-10 girls got back on the winning trail.

An early goal from Maddison Eden was soon followed by another from Charlotte Fereday although Kinver pulled one back from the spot.

Withymoor Colts 1 Halas Hawks 3

A fine team performance by the under-12s saw them run out winners against a good Withymoor team.

Lucy Heaslegrave, Sophie Heaslegrave and Amy Plimmer scored the goals, the platform built by good defending and creative team play.

Halas Hawks 9 Withymoor 2

The under-13s' fearsome attack put them into their second cup final. Scorers were Sophie Blount (4), Amy Blakemore (3), Sophie Pritchard and Mia Bell.

Bustleholme 2 Halas Hawks 5

Two goals by Charis Maguire and a third from Danielle Lawrence put the under-14s in charge.

Second-half goals came from Jess Morton and Abby Willingale.

Boys League Sedgley 0 Halas Hawks 3

Goals from Mohamed Yafai, Mohammed and Joe Wythes gave the under-11s runners-up spot in the league.

Halas Hawks 0 Trysull Tigers East 0

Halas gained a valuable point in their effort to avoid relegation with a well-earned draw against a good mid-table Trysull side. Halas player of the match was awarded to Jack Willetts.

Halas Hawks Dyn 8 Sedgley West 1

Halas ran out comfortable winners after leading 5-0 at the interval.

Scorers were Dalmar Morrison with a hat-trick, Jordan Boffey (2), Chris Priest, Sam Price and Jake Saxon.

Halas Hawks 1 West Hagley 4

The under-13s led at the break through Tom Bagley but found the second period tougher.

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